FINANCIAL TIMES
PUBLISHED IN LONDON AND FRANKFURT
No. 28,277 Wednesday September 24 1980 ***25p

CONTINENTAL SELLING PRICES: AUSTRIA Sch 15; BELGIUM Fr 28; DENMARK Kr 5.00; FRANCE Fr 4; GERMANY DM 2.0; ITALY L 800; NETHERLANDS Fl 2.0; NORWAY Kr 5.00; PORTUGAL Esc 45; SPAIN Pta 70; SWEDEN Kr 5.00; SWITZERLAND Fr 2.0; EIRE 25p; MALTA 20c

Iranian oil refinery reported ablaze as war intensifies

BY ROGER MATTHEWS

THE IRANIAN oil refinery at Abadan was reported yesterday to have been, with the vital nearby port of Khorramashar, encircled by invading Iraqui troops in what is a further major intensification of the war between the two Moslem oil producing nations.

The Iranian oil refinery at Abadan was reported yesterday to have been set ablaze and, with the vital nearby port of Khorramshahr, has been encircled by invading Iraqi troops in what is a further major intensification of the war between the two Moslem oil-producing nations.

Iraq radio claimed the refinery had been destroyed. But witness on a ship in the Gulf could state only that storage tanks were on fire.

If the destruction of the refinery and the encirclement of the port area is confirmed it would prove a devastating blow to Iran's military ability to continue the struggle.

The Abadan refinery provides much of the country's petroleum requirements. Oil industry executives in New York said all Iraqi and Iranian oil terminals in the Gulf had been shut.

Iraq launched its cross-border armoured thrust before dawn and said it aimed to capture several strategic areas in retaliation for Iran's declaration that the Gulf was now a war zone.

Despite the Iranian claim, the Straits of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf, through which nearly half the industrialised world's supply of oil passes, appeared free from fighting and open to shipping.

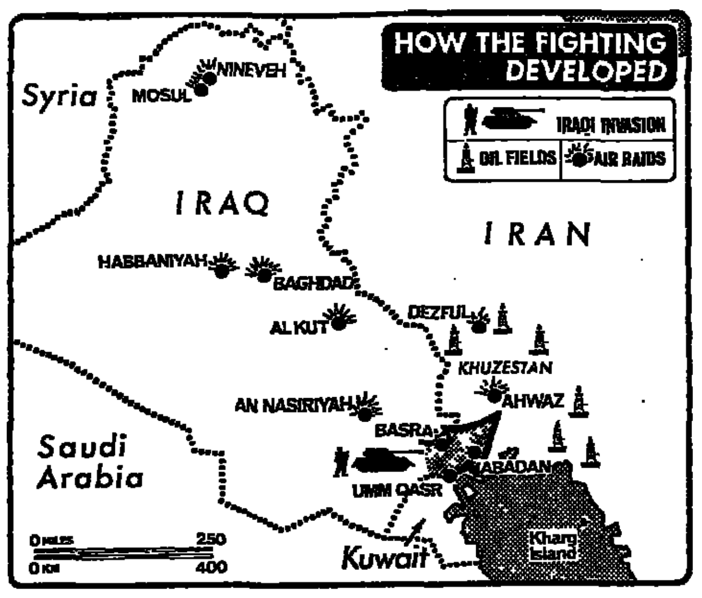
After declaring the Gulf a war zone, the Iranians said they would take action against any ships passing too close to their coast. President Saddam Hussein of Iraq said that amounted to a declaration of war.

The International Energy Agency's headquarters in Paris was preparing for an emergency session, if it was felt necessary to trigger the oil-sharing mechanism in the event of the war seriously interrupting supplies.

Oil industry anxiety was reflected on the spot market where prices hardened despite the relatively healthy state of world stocks.

The fighting between the two oil-producing Moslem countries spread yesterday to take in a *range of industrial and civilian* targets. The Iraqi petrochemical complex at Basra on the other side of the disputed Shatt al Arab from Abadan was also attacked.

- **Iraqi troops cross border with Iran**
- **Straits of Hormuz remain open**
- **Four Britons and three Americans killed**
- **Baghdad bombed by Iranian jets**



Diplomats said that four Britons and three Americans had been killed at Zubair, which adjoins Basra.

The fires at the Abadan refinery, said to be the largest *in the world and capable of* refining 600,000 barrels a day, could be seen from ships in the Gulf. The refinery exports between 200,000 and 300,000 barrels of products a day.

The Iraqi news agency INA said last night: "Iranian forces are retreating leaving behind dead, wounded, prisoners and equipment." The advancing Iraq troops had already captured the *city of Qasr-a-Shirin before* moving on to encircle Khorramshahr and Abadan.

Both sides reported aerial bombardment, although all claims are likely to be heavily exaggerated. Baghdad radio said the capital, along with eight other targets, had been attacked leaving 47 people dead and another 116 wounded.

A journalist contacted by tele*phone in Baghdad said bombs* were falling in many places and Soviet surface-to-air missiles were being used to intercept and

Continued on Back Page

Economic ripples spread, Page 4

U.S. and Russia exchange warnings

By Giles Meredith

THE U.S. and the Soviet Union cautioned each other yesterday to stay out of the conflict between Iran and Iraq.

President Carter, speaking in California, insisted the U.S. position was one of non-interference and he encouraged other nations "including the Soviet Union," to follow suit.

The Soviet warning was more oblique. A comment in the official newspaper Izvestia said "no one has the right to interfere in the bilateral relations between Iran and Iraq." The two countries had to find a solution to the fighting themselves, the newspaper said.

In New York members of the United Nations Security Council were summoned into private consultations last night in response to a proposal by Dr. Kurt Waldheim, the secretary general. Dr. Waldheim called the situation "a potentially grave threat to international peace and security."

The consultations take the form of private meetings by members of the Security Council and other interested delegations. The meetings *could decide to proceed with* a full-scale debate and consideration of any draft resolutions.

Neither Iran nor Iraq has yet asked for a Security Council meeting to discuss the fighting.

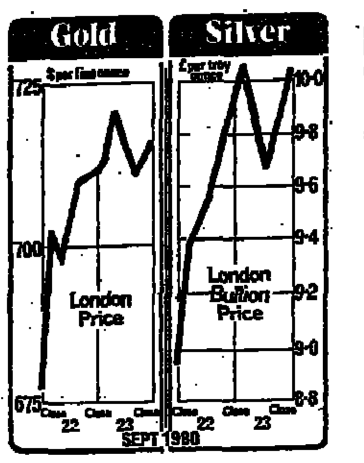
It was clear in Washington yesterday that the Carter Administration had never taken seriously an earlier report from Baghdad Radio that Iran had released the hostages.

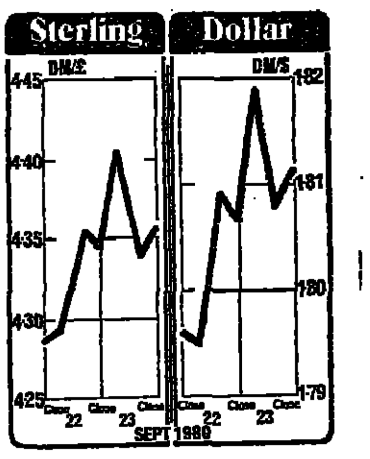
But the Government is showing increasing concern for the safety of the hostages now Iran is virtually at war with Iraq.

After the report from Baghdad Radio the Iranian Parliament announced it had decided to freeze consideration of the hostages issue for the moment.

Yesterday's Izvestia article in Moscow has the first detailed Soviet comment on the fighting. The conflict has *put the Soviet Union in a* dilemma as it has sought good relations with both Tehran and has a friendship treaty with Baghdad.

Izvestia suggested that the real threat to the two warring countries came from U.S. *naval forces in the Gulf* region.





Fears for oil push up £ and gold

BY DAVID MARSH

FEARS THAT the Iran-Iraq conflict could disrupt oil supplies again sparked off heavy flows of international funds into gold and sterling yesterday.

Gold finished in London at $716 per ounce, $4.50 up from Monday, marking its highest close since February 6.

Sterling finished at its highest closing level for 5½ years against a trade weighted basket of currencies. It rose above $2.42 at one point, before settling back to finish slightly lower against the dollar but well up against other major currencies.

The Deutsche mark and yen were particularly weak.

Trading on the foreign exchanges and precious metals markets was extremely nervous. Wild price fluctuations were set off during the day by the *Middle East fighting and the* report—subsequently shown to be untrue—that the American hostages in Iran had been released.

Sterling is profiting above all from the foreign exchange market's belief that Britain's North Sea resources will insulate it from the worst effects of any reduction in Gulf oil deliveries.

Prospects that UK interest rates will come down only slowly in spite of the deepening recession are also attracting inflows.

Precious metals are playing their traditional role as a home for funds set on the move by war scares. Gold touched a high of $721 yesterday in very erratic trading, silver closed 17 cents higher, off its top levels of the day, while platinum was up $3, following both metals' steep price increases on Monday.

But the dollar also gained considerable ground this week. It has benefited from large-*scale withdrawal of funds from* D-marks, yen and Swiss francs by investors who fear Continental Europe and Japan could prove especially vulnerable to a reduction in oil supplies.

Sterling's trade weighted index measured by the Bank of England closed at 76.7, up from 76.5 on Monday after touching 77.3 early on. This was the pound's highest overall level since early summer, 1975.

Sterling made fresh gains against Continental currencies, finishing at DM 4.3550 (DM 4.3450) after earlier rising as high as DM 4.4050.

The dollar reached its highest *levels since the beginning* of May against the D-mark, rising to DM 1.8115 from DM 1.8065 on Monday. It climbed to Y218.25 from Y214.75, and to SwFr 1.6610 from Sw Fr 1.6575.

On a trade weighted basis, the dollar closed at 84.3 against 84.0 on Monday, according to the Bank of England's figures. So far this week the dollar and sterling have risen 0.9 per cent and 1.4 per cent respectively on a trade weighted basis, while gold is up 6 per cent.

The dollar would have closed higher still against major currencies but for central bank intervention to restrain its rise.

The recent firmer trend in U.S. interest rates has been a fundamental factor bolstering the U.S. currency. Easier interest rates in West Germany after last Thursday's reduction of the Bundesbank's Lombard rate has contributed to the Deutsche Mark's weakness.

Money markets, Page 28
Commodities, Page 35

£ in New York

—	Sept. 22	previous
Spot	$2.4080-4090	$2.3838-3848
1 month	0.90-0.85 dis	0.98-0.93 dis.
3 months	*2.06-2.00 dis*	*1.96-1.91 dis.*
12 months	3.20-3.00 dis	2.70-2.55 dis.

NEWS SUMMARY

GENERAL

Greece may soon return to Nato

Moves by Turkey raised hopes that the way could soon be clear for Greece to return to the military wing of Nato and end the alliance's most troubling internal dispute. Back Page

India outcry

Indian opposition leaders said they would resist special government detention powers enforced to check mounting violence. Page 3

Police chief plea

Police Superintendents' Association president called for the minimum height restrictions for recruits to be increased two inches.

Bank loan offer

Midland Bank said it was prepared to offer home loans of as little as £10,000 to attract first-time buyers. Page 7

Lamb pact near

European Community appeared to be moving towards agreement on a new policy which could end the Anglo-French lamb war. Page 3

Drug blamed

Tests have shown that the commonly used detanl anaesthetic, which is though to have made two Cumbrian men seriously ill, was contaminated.

Fingers saved

Young motor cyclist injured in a road accident had two fingers stitched back on to his right hand by Manchester surgeons.

TV breakthrough

Thames Television is expected to reach agreement soon on the introduction of Electronic News Gathering equipment. Page 10

Briefly . . .

France has decided to build two nuclear powered aircraft *carriers.*

Mystery illness hit more than 200 school children and five are in hospital.

Tests confirmed that a Scot who holidayed in Benidorm has Legionnaire's disease.

BUSINESS

Equities off 2.2 at 485.1; gilts off 0.05

● **EQUITIES:** the FT 30-share index closed down 2.2 at 485.1. Page 36

● **GILTS:** the Government Securities index was 0.05 down *at 70.19. Page 36*

● **WALL STREET** was 6.99 down before the close at 967.58. Page 34

● **STERLING** closed 10 points down at $2.4025 but rose to FFr 10.0825 (FFr 10.0800) a 5½ year high. Its trade-weighted index was 76.7 (76.5). **DOLLAR** closed at DM 1.8115 (DM 1.8065). It trade-weighted index was 84.3 (84.0). Page 28

● **GOLD** closed $4.50 higher at $716. Page 28. In New York the Comex September close was $707 ($715).

● **WORLD BANK** is considering lending Jamaica just under $100m (£41m) in the next two years. Page 6

● **EEC** *proposals to alter the* Community's generalised system of tariff preferences were heavily criticised by India. Page 6

● **UK GRAIN CROP** could be a *record at more than 18m tonnes. Page 35*

● **BRITISH STEEL** chairman Ian MacGregor wants to delay recommendations on future capacity. Output may be up to 5m liquid tonnes short of target this year. Back Page. West German production ceilings, Page 2

● **IMPERIAL GROUP's** St. Anne's Board Mill is to close with 900 redundancies. Back Page. Courtauld's weaving division is to cut 700 jobs. Page 10

● **MAINTENANCE** workers at mills supplying most flour for Britain's bread may take industrial action over a 15 per cent pay offer. Page 10

● **CIVIL SERVICE** faces an immediate overtime ban by its biggest union in protest at overwork. Back Page

● **KLEINWORT,** Benson, Lonsdale increased its interim dividend from 2.5p to 3p net for the six months to June 30. Page 24, and Lex, Back Page

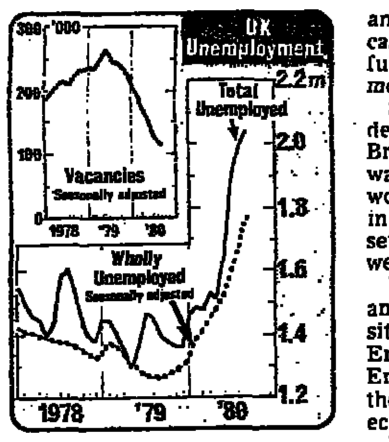
CHIEF PRICE CHANGES YESTERDAY

(Prices in pence unless otherwise indicated)

RISES			FALLS		
Treas. 15pc 1985	£107¾	+ ½	Aurora	42	− 6
Excheq. 12pc 1998 A (£50 pd.)	£49¼	+ ½	*Automated Security*	*305*	*− 15*
Armitage Shanks	112	+ 6½	Beatson Clark	105	− 11
Barratt Devs.	156	+ 14	Brent Chemicals	139	− 7
Camrex	28½	+ 5½	Caffyns	166	− 4
DRG	94	+ 3	Copydex	23	− 15
Fobel Intnl.	35	+ 5	Elliott (B.)	213	− 5
Ingram (H.)	26	+ 5	Rank Org.	148	− 10
Kean and Scott	70	+ 5	Stag Furniture	73	− 6
Kleinwort Benson	230	+ 8	Stewart Wrightson	218	− 14
Matthews (B.)	260	+ 20	Supra	50	− 4
Rush and Tompkins	248	+ 8	Thorn EMI	346	− 6
Candecca	224	+ 8	Utd. Newspapers	198	− 10
Tricentrol	368	+ 12	Anglo-Am. Gold	£58½	− 1½
Ultramar	412	+ 12	Gold Fields of SA	£45	− 1½
Barlow Holdings	98	+ 8	Randfontein	£44	− 2¾
Hill 50 Gold	55	+ 5	Rustenburg Plat.	360	− 10
Minorco	645	+ 165	St. Helena	£26½	− 2
Mount Carrington	68	+ 5	Sth. African Land	603	− 43
			West Driefontein	£51½	− 2½
			Zandpan	749	− 54

Labour market squeezed as recession deepens

BY DAVID MARSH



TOTAL UK unemployment has risen beyond the 2m mark as the recession deepens. The *squeeze on the labour market* intensified in the past two months, reflecting a further drop in industrial output in the summer and a big rise in company liquidations and redundancies.

The number out of work in the UK has risen to 2.039m after an increase of 37,800 since last month, the Department of Employment announced yesterday.

The increase was the biggest September rise since records began in 1948. It would have been higher but for a bigger-than-expected reduction since mid-August of more than 57,000 in unemployment among school-leavers.

The underlying trend has however, clearly worsened since *early summer.* This is highlighted by a sharp increase in the seasonally-adjusted figure for adult unemployment, excluding school-leavers.

This has risen to 1.784m, up 88,100 from mid-August. The rise was only slightly less than *the record 89,900 increase* registered last month and takes the adjusted adult unemployment rate to 7.4 per cent from 7 per cent in August.

The figures show the rising rate at which companies are shedding labour in the face of weakening demand, high interest rates and increasing competitive pressures.

Notified redundancies in August are put at 46,000, taking the number for the first eight months to 283,000. This is already above the total layoffs registered in the whole of the *recession year of 1975.*

With no sign of a recovery in business prospects Whitehall and private economic forecasters are united in expecting further increases in unemploy*ment in coming months.*

Sir Raymond Pennock, president of the Confederation of British Industry, yesterday warned that another 750,000 workers could lose their jobs in the next two years unless pay settlements were brought down *well below the inflation rate.*

Yesterday's figures drew angry reactions from the Opposition and trade unions. Mr. Eric Varley, the Shadow Employment Secretary, accused the Government of "lunatic economic measures."

But there were no signs of any change in official policy. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, commenting on the figures in a visit to Greece, said they were "distressingly high" because of the world recession and Britain's lack of competitiveness.

Mr. James Prior, the Employment Secretary, repeated that the Government was reviewing policies aimed at alleviating youth unemployment but gave

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Map, Page 10

Fiat seeks big capital injection

BY RUPERT CORNWELL IN TURIN

FIAT, the Italian motor group, yesterday announced a two-pronged financing operation aimed at raising about L500bn (£245m) of fresh capital.

The Turin company, which is paralysed by a wave of union protest at its plans to dismiss more than 14,000 workers, will raise the new money in roughly equal parts by a rights issue and an issue of convertible bonds.

The financing operation is aimed at demonstrating Fiat's determination to put its house in order. The move is also calculated to improve the company's hand in the arduous negotiations still continuing *over plans to cut the workforce* and boost productivity in the face of increasingly severe competition in the motor industry.

Efforts at an agreement between the management and unions over these plans have so far foundered on the latter's resistance to any specific redundancies. Pressure is growing for a strike throughout Fiat to force a settlement, which will probably take place in the next fortnight—barring a breakthrough which yesterday seemed improbable.

The first stage of Fiat's financing programme will lift the capital of Fiat Spa, the group holding company, to L337bn from the present L165bn by the issue at par of 345m new shares on a one-for-one basis at L700 each.

The *inflow of new funds to* the company from this issue will be L241bn. The subscription price of L700 a share compares with yesterday's Milan Bourse quotation for Fiat ordinary shares of over L2,200.

Shareholders will also receive a free issue of one privileged and two ordinary shares for every 60 held at present.

The second stage is a L250bn bond issue by Mediobanca, the State-owned merchant bank, of which L150bn will subsequently be convertible into shares of Fidis, an investment company at the moment entirely owned by Fiat Spa.

The capital increase will be fully subscribed by the two major shareholders of the Fiat group—IFI, the Agnelli family holding company which owns 30 per cent of Fiat Spa, and the Libyan Arab Bank which under a 1976 agreement has a 9 per cent stake.

The fact that the Agnelli family is taking up its full

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For latest Share Index phone 01-246 8026

The German Catholic Church has broken its 15-year truce with Socialism. **Roger Boyes** writes from Bonn

Turbulent priests add some electoral sparkle

WEST GERMANY'S lack-lustre, joyless and almost subterranean election campaign has suddenly captured a little sparkle. Skeletons are at last beginning to tumble out of cupboards, albeit in a well-regimented way. The latest "election shock" is a politically loaded sermon highlighting the Catholic Church's troubled relationship with the Social Democratic Government.

The Church's poliical intervention has unleashed curious scenes. A Bavarian priest led a demonstration to block a large body of people protesting against Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the Opposition challenger for the chancellery. The priest stretched himself out on the road in front of the protesters and challenged them to run him over. Even more curious was last Sunday's sight of journalists inside a Catholic Church in Bonn, jostling for pews and hard news.

The sermon, read from most Catholic pulpits last Sunday, is undoubtedly the most politically inspired since the Second Vatican Council of 1965. The council ruled that Catholics were free to differ in their political opinions and the bishop's synod followed this up in 1971 with the advice that political opinions voiced from the pulpit should be limited to those based directly on biblical tests.

In general, the German Church — which had previously made strong statements of support for the Opposition Christian Democrats and their Bavarian affiliate the Christian Social Union — obeyed this ruling simply advising parishoners to follow their consciences.

But the latest sermon has broken this pattern. It criticises the high level of state indebtedness and attacks. the expansion of government bureaucracy—both issues which figure prominently in the Opposition's campaign.

Predictably, the Social Democrat leadership has been extremely irritated. "I don't see anything about state indebtedness in either the Old or New Testaments," said Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in a recent speech. "Nor was I aware that there was a theological institute specialising in financial affairs." Herr Schmidt has let it be known that in the dozens of meetings he has had with the Catholic leadership, the problem of state indebtedness was never mentioned — it has become a "moral" issue only a fortnight before the elections.

Herr Strauss, meanwhile, has tried to drive a further wedge between the Social Democrats and the Catholic Church (and therefore, implicitly, Catholic voter:) by suggesting that the Government has plans to reduce the Church tax, the Church's main source of income.

Germany, it seems, is suddenly full of turbulent priests and angry politicians. Why is the Catholic Church breaking out of its self-imposed political boundaries?

In the first place, the relationship between the Church and the Social Democrats has never been all that happy. In 1931, a papal encyclical decreed is was impossible to be both a good Catholic and a real Socialist. German priests thus urged voters to choose the Centre Party as the main political representative of the Catholics. The Church regarded the post-war Christian Democrat-Christian Social Union grouping as the successor to the Centre Party and, although it broadened to include non-Catholics, it has continued to receive strong Church support.

This changed in the mid-1960s, as a result both of the Second Vatican Council ruling and the formation in Germany of a Social Democrat-Christian Democrat coalition. A live-and-let-live agreement had to be reached with the Social Democrats.

Now this agreement appears to have foundered, for a variety of reasons. The Vatican appears, for example, to have entered a new conservative and at the same time politically interested *mood since the accession of Pope* John Paul.

In the Social Democrats' view, the decisive factor behind the surprising politicisation of the Church is the drift of Catholic voters away from the Christian Democratic Party since Herr Strauss was chosen as the Oppositions rival to Chancellor Schmidt.

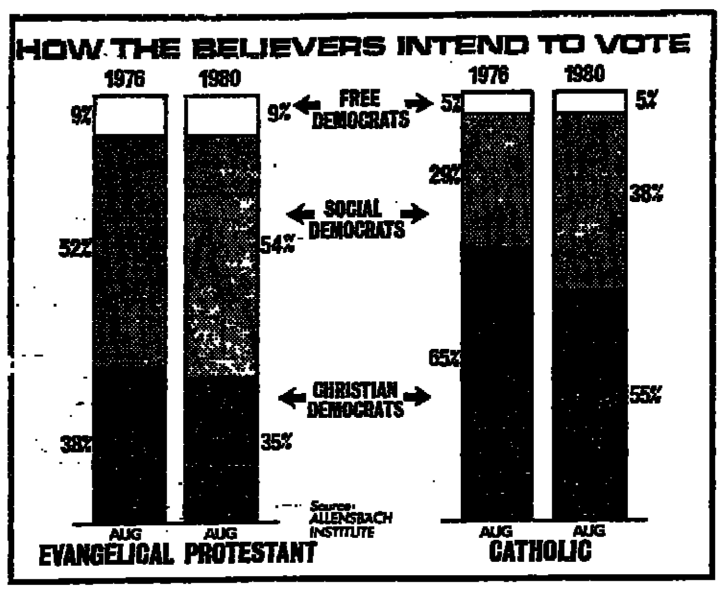
The chart shows there is considerable cause for concern among the Opposition parties. Catholics, after all, are a central pillar of their support, and such erosion could mean long-term structural difficulties for the two parties.

It is almost certainly too simple to link religion and voting behaviour. Evangelical Protestants—grouping the main Protestant denominations and accounting for 45 per cent of believers—tend to vote according to political judgment rather than traditional religious reasons.

None the less, religion does play an important part in the traditional formation of voting attitudes—according to a recent study, it has more influence on Catholics than do educational levels or social standing.

That is why the Social Democrats believe the sermon will not lead to big changes in voting behaviour—those Catholics who pay attention to their priests' political advice have such firmly entrenched political views that they are unlikely to change their voting intentions at this late stage.

This may be wishful thinking. Herr Willy Brandt, the Social Democrat chairman, admitted this weekend that the Church's move is simply likely to make anti-Catholic voters even more opposed to the Church. The effect will thus be to make relations between the Church and a Social Democrat Government even more strained during the coming years.



The latest West German opinion polls suggest that the opposition Christian Democrats have increased their support over the past month. But the Social Democrat-Free Democrat coalition still looks set to be returned to power, Roger Boyes writes from Bonn. All three of the country's leading opinion polls agree that the coalition is well ahead.

W. German steel producers urged to end divisions

BY ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE WEST GERMAN Government and a number of bankers are pressing the country's steel makers to end their bitter infighting and start talks on binding production ceilings.

The efforts come at a time when the European Commission is also trying, through talks with the individual steel companies, to rescue the Community's anti-crisis plans.

The Commission's original plan, aimed at cutting output and fixing minimum price levels, brought a degree of order on the traditionally unruly steel market. But the scheme is now foundering, partly because West German and Italian companies have broken ranks.

Count Otto Lambsdorff, the Economics Minister, yesterday called on the companies "to get their house in order as soon as possible." It is also understood that Dr. Dieter von Wuerzen, a state secretary in the Economics Ministry, has been holding talks with the chiefs of the German steel concerns, but so far there seems to have been no success.

The banks too have been worried by the effective collapse of the European steel cartel. F. Wilhelm Christains, chief executive of Deutsche Bank, and other bankers had held talks with some steel company chiefs, urging further rationalisation and renewed efforts to avoid a price war. According to Bundesbank figures, the steel and related industries—that is, non-ferrous metal producers and the foundry industry — owed the banks some DM 17.5bn by the middle of this year, excluding mortgages.

When the Commission anti-crisis plan was established in the mid-1970s, German companies agreed to fix their production levels at the 1974 level. The problem is that this was a good year for the whole of the industry apart from Kloeckner, whose new Bremen plant was not fully effective. Kloeckner is prepared to take part in a new scheme, but feels that it should not be bound by what it considers artificially low output levels.

This has drawn criticism from other German producers, notably Hoesch which has claimed that Kloeckner has in effect undermined the European cartel. Within the industry accusations and counter-accusations have been traded about what other companies may or may not be breaking price and delivery discipline.

Berlin rail strikers begin to weaken

BY LESLIE COLITT IN BERLIN

A WEEK-LONG strike of West Berlin railwaymen employed by East Germany's railway system, the Reichsbahn, showed signs of weakening yesterday after the West Berlin city government refused to accept the strikers' demand that the city take over the Reichsbahn's entire rail operations in West Berlin.

Following the refusal, West Berlin Reichsbahn guards broke into several West Berlin signal stations occupied by the strikers and routed them with axes, crowbars and police dogs. The West Berlin police did not intervene.

Passenger services had already been restored with West Germany and other points, but freight and mail trains were still not running yesterday.

Chanceller Helmut Schmidt had hinted at possible negotiations with East Germany on the knotty problem of the railway's operations in West Berlin. But the ruling West Berlin Social Democrat Party said the existing legal position could not be changed.

France encourages hopes of end to lamb feud

BY LARRY KLINGER IN BRUSSELS

THE European Community appeared yesterday to be moving steadily towards agreement on a new market policy that would formally end the Anglo-French lamb war.

Optimism on a possible end to the impasse on the Community's proposed regime for lamb and mutton has been encouraged by an apparent shift in the official French position.

France seems to be prepared to make concessions on import duty levels and agreements with third countries such as New Zealand and Australia in return for guarantees within the Community to protect French farmers against cheaper imports.

French negotiators are said to have received instructions from "the highest levels of their Governments" to press for a successful conclusion to the talks.

"To be blunt," said one negotiator, "the French seem willing to go ahead on most issues if they are guaranteed protection against New Zealand lamb imports arriving in France via Britain. They want a temporary ban on all third country imports entering France, possibly of up to two years' duration."

Commission officials now believe, however, that it may be possible to overcome the main obstacles to commencement of the regime in time to ensure its adoption by the Council of Agriculture Ministers meeting in Brussels next Tuesday.

An officially-accepted regime would supersede France's national scheme of bans and import levies, thereby removing the root cause of the Anglo-French lamb feud. It would enable France to reverse its defiance of rulings against it on the issue by the European Court of Justice.

While optimistic, Commission officials are urging caution. Discussions were continuing last night in the EEC's special agriculture committee, and some negotiators said that they expected further talks would be necessary next Monday ahead of the Ministers' meeting.

France is still seeking assurances that imports from overseas into one EEC member country cannot be re-exported to another member country when this would result in economic difficulties at their final destination.

EEC law provides for the unrestricted distribution of goods once they have met all the requirements of entry into the Community. But it also provides for the Commission to restrict the free movement of goods if a member country can demonstrate that they entered at such a low price that their export could cause "considerable economic difficulties."

Polish union move 'rejected'

WARSAW — The Warsaw District Court is said to have rejected the first application for registration by an independent trade union, citing objections to the group's charter, membership and financing.

The application was filed last week by an organising committee in the Silesian city of Katowice which claimed to represent some 14,000 members.

According to members of the independent union movement, the court questioned among other things the committee's plans to operate nationally, to allow members to come from various, unrelated professions and the unemployed and to finance its operations in part from donations.

Court officials could not be reached to confirm the development. The Government announced earlier this month that the new independent unions should register with the Warsaw District Court pending enactment of a new labour law this year.

The committee has the right of appeal. The union organisers were said to be meeting with a Government delegation led by the Minister of Steelworks and Foundries.

Dissidents, meanwhile, reported that representatives of various Polish universities met on Monday in Warsaw and founded an organisation called "the Poland-wide independent initiative - organisation of students of Poland."

The organisation, it was said, would serve as a rival to the Socialist Union of Polish Students, the only student association since the merger of three groups in 1973.

In a separate development the Polish Government announced new investment priorities for 1981 yesterday and said the country would continue to need foreign loans to help it overcome its economic problems.

The official news agency PAP said the Government had decided to shelve some big investment projects and give priority to investments connected with consumer needs and food.

"Tensions in the economy impose the necessity of solving the present swollen problems . . . with the help of additional foreign means," the agency said.

Poland, which owes more than $20bn to the West, faces an uphill struggle to recoup economic losses from a summer of strikes which caused a deficit in foreign trade for the first eight months of the year.

The Government pledge to concentrate investment in food supplies conformed with the pledge by Mr. Stanislaw Kania, Poland's new Communist leader, to boost the depressed private agricultural sector.

Agencies

Pravda defends radio jamming

BY DAVID SATTER IN MOSCOW

THE SOVIET communist party newspaper Pravda yesterday defended the jamming of the Russian language broadcasts of Western radio stations and accused the stations of trying to "split socialism from within."

Although the newspaper did not mention the jamming of the Russian language services of the Voice of America, the BBC and Deutsche Welle directly, it said the stations were waging "psyhocological war" over events in Poland.

Pravda explicity defended the jamming of Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe, the two U.S.-financed stations based in Munich, whose broadcasts were jammed before the events in Poland, and said the Voice of America, the BBC and Deutsche Welle were increasing their co-operation with those stations.

The jamming of Western broadcasts began August 20 at the height of the Polish crisis, and the uncompromising tone of the Pravda article suggested that it may continue

The newspaper said that "subversive" Western broadcasts marked a revival of the cold war doctrine of "rolling back communism."

In apparent preparation for expected criticism of the jamming at the Madrid European security conference next month, Pravda said the "incompatibility" of these broadcasts with the final act signed in Helsinki is "obvious without a magnifying glass."

Parliament favours Strasbourg

BY JOHN WYLES IN BRUSSELS

THE EUROPEAN Parliament has again demonstrated its clear preference for Strasbourg over Luxembourg as its centre of activity by scheduling five of its first seven sessions next year in the French border city.

But the decision, by the Parliament's administrative bureau, should not be seen as a pointer to where the Parliament wishes to be permanently located. On this issue the bureau has cast a straw in the wind by asking the Belgian Government to provide its 410 MPs with more facilities in Brussels.

The Parliament holds most of its committee meetings in Brussels, but will not have any office facilities here until November 1. But the bureau considers that these facilities requiring MEPs to be housed two or three to an office, to be barely adequate and has now requested an annexe providing another 210 offices.

There are some indications that a clear majority of MEPs are in favour of holding the Parliament's full monthly sessions in Brussels.

Sensing the trend of opinion, the French Government has started moves which could lead to a final decision by the Council of Ministers on "the seat" of the Community's institutions. France is desperate that Strasbourg should be declared the Parliament's meeting place despite the risk of a confrontation to the Parliament

Spain anxious on EEC talks

BY ROBERT GRAHAM IN MADRID

SPAIN IS anxious to press ahead with as much of the technical negotiations as possible with the EEC, leaving aside important substantive matters that are politically sensitive.

In this way the Madrid Government hopes that the negotiating impetus will not be lost while the Community sorts out its internal problems and awaits the result oft he French Presidential elections due in 1981.

This view has emerged from a meeting in Brussels on Monday between a Spanish delegation led by the former EEC Affairs Minister, Sr. Calvo Cotelo, who now has overall responsibility for the economy, and the President of the EEC Commission, Mr. Roy Jenkins.

The meeting was the first contact between Spain and the EEC since the summer recess, and it followed Spain's Cabinet reshuffle two weeks ago.

Mr. Jenkins is understood to have told the Spanish delegation that he too wanted to maintain momentum in the negotiations. There appears an understanding that the political and economic problems posed by Spanish entry should not inhibit negotiation of less contentious issues.

Parties more concerned than voters in French Senate poll

BY DAVID WHITE IN PARIS

POLLS taking place this Sunday for a third of the seats in indirectly-elected Senate are providing reasons for concern both in the Government and in the Opposition, even if they have yet to stir the Frenchmen in the street from his customary indifference towards this complex ritual.

The election is for 98 seats in 38 departments of France itself, as well as French Guiana and the Pacific territories of French Polynesia and the Wallis and Futuna islands.

The 41,720 electors, who have to choose between 392 candidates, are all elected members of regional councils, local governments or the National Assembly.

Senators, who have to be over 35, are elected for nine years, with a third of the seats up for election every three years. The departments to be contested are taken in alphabetical order.

For the Government the main concern is a series of National Assembly by-elections likely to result from Sunday's poll. Ten National Assembly deputies are standing for the Senate, including four from the Giscardian UDF party and two from the Gaullist RPR, as well as M. Edgar Faure, a former Prime Minister and now an independent MP. If elected, they will sacrifice their National Assembly seats.

The election is also likely to bring about a minor Government reshuffle, as five members of the current Government team are also standing, including two Cabinet Ministers. Of these, M. Yvon Bourges, Gaullist Defence Minister, is thought likely to be kept on. But M. Robert Galley, the Co-operation Minister, is considered likely to leave the Government, as are three Secretaries of State

The Socialist Party stands to reinforce its representation in the upper house. This is because the largest number of electors are delegated by local governments elected in 1977, when the Union of the Left was at its height and Socialists and Communists had not yet split over their common programme.

The Socialists are expected to become the largest single group in the Senate without threatening the majority of the Centre-Right, currently holding 195 seats.

New attack on Botha's apartheid 'reforms'

By Quentin Peel in Johannesburg

PROF. CAREL BOSHOFF, the new leader of the Afrikaner Broederbond, the powerful secret society which dominates the ruling National Party in South Africa, yesterday set himself firmly against changes in apartheid and the cautious reformism of Mr. P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister.

Prof. Boshoff, chairman of the South African Bureau of Racial Affairs (SABRA), a Broederbond Front organisation, who now succeeds Dr. Gerrit Viljoen as head of the Broederbond itself, rejected any suggestion of racial economic integration in South Africa, as recently outlined by the Prime Minister.

Speaking at the annual congress of SABRA, Prof. Boshoff, son-in-law of the late Dr. Hendrik Verwoerd, the chief architect of Apartheid, outlined his hardline conservative position as favouring rigid racial segregation, and the creation of a "white fatherland."

He described "economic integration in a system of separate political sovereignties" as a "false doctrine."

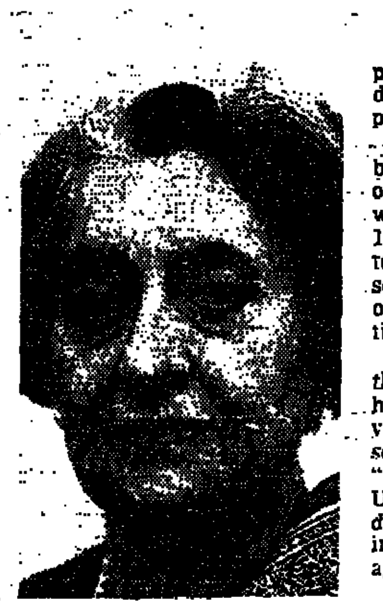
His stand suggests that Mr. Botha has lost control of the Broederbond leadership at a critical moment

The secret organisation wields enormous power throughout Afrikanerdom, dominating politics, education, the Dutch Reformed Church, and sport.

Reuter reports from Salisbury: A police camp near here came under mortar fire when it was attacked by gunmen, police said yesterday. No injuries were reported at the camp at Goromomzi.

Outcry over Gandhi's new powers

BY K. K. SHARMA IN NEW DELHI



Mrs. Indira Gandhi

FEARS THAT Mrs. India Gandhi, India's Prime Minister, would again unleash the repressive measures used during her Emergency Rule from 1975 to 1977 were voiced by Opposition leaders yesterday, following promulgation of an ordinance to legalise preventive detention without trial.

The ordinance, promulgated on Monday night, took the opposition by surprise. Mrs. Gandhi now faces nationwide agitation for repeal of the ordinance, although no efforts have been made towards co-ordinating such a movement yet.

Individual opposition parties, notably the Marxists and Communists, have called for an agitation, and it is possible that they will initiate consultations with other political groups.

Preventive detention without trial was withdrawn by the Janata Government soon after it wrested power from Mrs. Gandhi in 1977 although it tried unsuccessfully to restore the detentions in modified form, to deal with those committing "economic crimes" such as smuggling and black marketing.

Mrs. Gandhi has been toying with the proposal to reintroduce preventive detention for some time, especially after large-scale sectarian rioting in the past few weeks in some cities in the politically important state of Uttar Pradesh, during which hundreds of Moslems were killed.

Law and order deteriorated following the prolonged 11-month agitation in Assam, where students paralysed the state to press their demand for deportation of "foreigners."

Agitators have also disrupted essential services and supplies in various parts of the country and opinion has been growing that some kind of stern measures are needed to deal with what are called "anti-social elements."

The opposition fears Mrs. Gandhi will misuse powers to act against her political opponents if they threaten her position. At the moment, this is unlikely because of opposition disunity.

But conditions could change within a year or two, especially if Mrs. Gandhi is not able to check inflation and the social tensions that economic backwardness and the country's structural weaknesses are causing.

In that case, the opposition groups contend, the powers conferred on the Federal and State Governments by Monday's ordinance could be liable to misuse. Ironically, Mrs. Ghandi campaigned against preventive detention when she was out of power.

The new ordinance, which has been called "draconian" by the opposition, permits detention without trial for a maximum of 12 months for a person thought to be acting against national security and endangering public order, or maintenance of essential supplies and services.

The Government contends that the need for the ordinance has arisen because of the prevailing communal disharmony, social tensions, activities of the "extremists," atrocities against Untouchables, and the "tendency on the part of various interested parties to engineer agitations on different issues."

Officials made it clear yesterday that Mrs. Gandhi was not imposing the kind of emergency that had earlier made her lose her popularity — and, subsequently, the Prime Ministership.

The situation in India is now different. Mrs. Gandhi is secure as Prime Minister, with a two-thirds majority in Parliament, and an opposition which poses hardly any challenge.

Ethiopia rejects U.S. pledge on Somali pact

BY JAMES BUXTON

ETHIOPIA does not accept U.S. assurances that a military agreement with Somalia, signed last month, will not lead to Somali aggression against Ethiopia, a senior Ethiopian minister said in London yesterday. The record of both the U.S. and Somalia in the Horn of Africa "made it impossible to believe the assurances the U.S. has given," he added.

Mr. Getachew Kebreth, the Ethiopian Justice Minister, said he had explained to Sir Ian Gilmour, Britain's Deputy Foreign Secretary, Ethiopia's concern about the U.S.-Somali agreement, at a meeting a day earlier. Under the pact, the U.S. will be able to use naval facilities at Berbera on the Gulf of Aden and at Mogadishu, on the Indian Ocean.

In return, the U.S. will provide Somalia over two years with $40m-worth of credits to buy arms. The U.S. has assured Ethiopia that its agreement provides that the weapons should be used only for defensive purposes and that Somalia will not commit its regular troops to fighting in the Somali-populated Ogaden, which is part of Ethiopia.

Mr. Getachew pointed out that the Somali-U.S. agreement was made only a few weeks after Ethiopia defeated an invasion of the Ogaden by Somali regular troops, which began in May.

With the U.S. agreement, Somali would be able to launch attacks on Ethiopia from a more secure "lair," Mr. Getachew claimed. "The U.S. wants to make Somalia an instrument as part of its scheme to dominate the region."

Mr Getachew also pointed out that the U.S. had withdrawn its military support from Ethiopia during the 1977/78 war between Ethiopia and Somalia and "had not delivered" arms which Ethiopia had paid for, while saying it would provide arms to Somalia.

Sir Ian told Mr. Getachew that the U.S. facilities in Somalia, part of a chain involving Oman, Kenya and Egypt, were in response to the heightened tension in the region following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Mr. Getachew refused to acknowledge the presence of a Soviet military base at Aden in South Yemen, and said that the Soviet Union had no "fast deployment force" such as the U.S. proposed launching from its facilities around the Indian Ocean.

The Soviet Union only had military advisers in Ethiopia, while Cuban troops were there in a defensive function.

Economic ripples spread from the battle for Shatt al-Arab

War strikes at the oilfields

THE GROWING conflict between Iran and Iraq was last night threatening oil supplies from the Gulf, which provides almost half the world's internationally traded crude.

The war moved closer to the oil industry yesterday when Iraqi aircraft and artillery reportedly attacked Iran's Abadan oil refinery—the biggest in the world—and Iran restricted tanker movements in the Gulf.

The International Energy Agency was preparing for an emergency session. Officials were in touch with the delegations of member countries yesterday, and in Paris—the agency's headquarters—it was felt that the emergency oil-sharing mechanism might be triggered if the war continued and interrupted supplies to a significant extent.

The uneasiness of the oil industry—despite its large stocks—was reflected on the spot market, where crude oil and products prices hardened. Gas oil prices rose from around $280 to $290 a tonne in north-west Europe.

Companies with spare crude were not anxious to sell in view of the uncertainties in the Middle East.

> **the criminal U.S.A. intends, with the help of criminal Saddam to weaken our battle forces and with the help of hypocritical counter-revolutionary groups . . . to split our united ranks and prepare a final blow**
> **Tehran radio.**

Gulf producers—those countries whose exports would be severely affected by a conflict which closed the Straits of Hormuz at the entrance to the Gulf—now provide 18.5m barrels a day (b/d) of the world's total 60m b/d.

Nearly 17m b/d of this Gulf production is sold as exports, some 16m b/d of the total being carried in tankers through the straits. An estimated 800,000 b/d of Iraqi oil is exported through two pipelines to the Mediterranean through Turkey and Syria. *Oil industry executives* suggested yesterday that it might be possible for Iraq to export a further 500,000 to 1m b/d by these routes.

Other producers are less fortunate. Virtually all their exports are shipped, although oil transport is being made more flexible. Saudi Arabia is building a 750-mile, 48 in pipeline across the Arabian Peninsula to the Red Sea port of Yanbu. That line will be able to carry 1.85m b/d within the next few years. The kingdom has also considered building pipelines connecting its oilfields with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea.

But the Gulf producers now are vulnerable to any action restricting the flow of oil through the straits. The 16m b/d throughput accounts for almost 50 per cent of international oil movements, almost 60 per cent of Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries production, and 35 per cent of consumption in the free world.

The entire industrialised world would feel the pinch if the Hormuz Straits were closed. Disruption of just Iranian and Iraqi supplies—and there was thought to be little oil moving out of those countries yesterday—would hurt developing countries in particular. Brazil, for instance, relies on Iraq for 40 per cent of its oil imports; India receives a large proportion of its imports from Iraq and Iran.

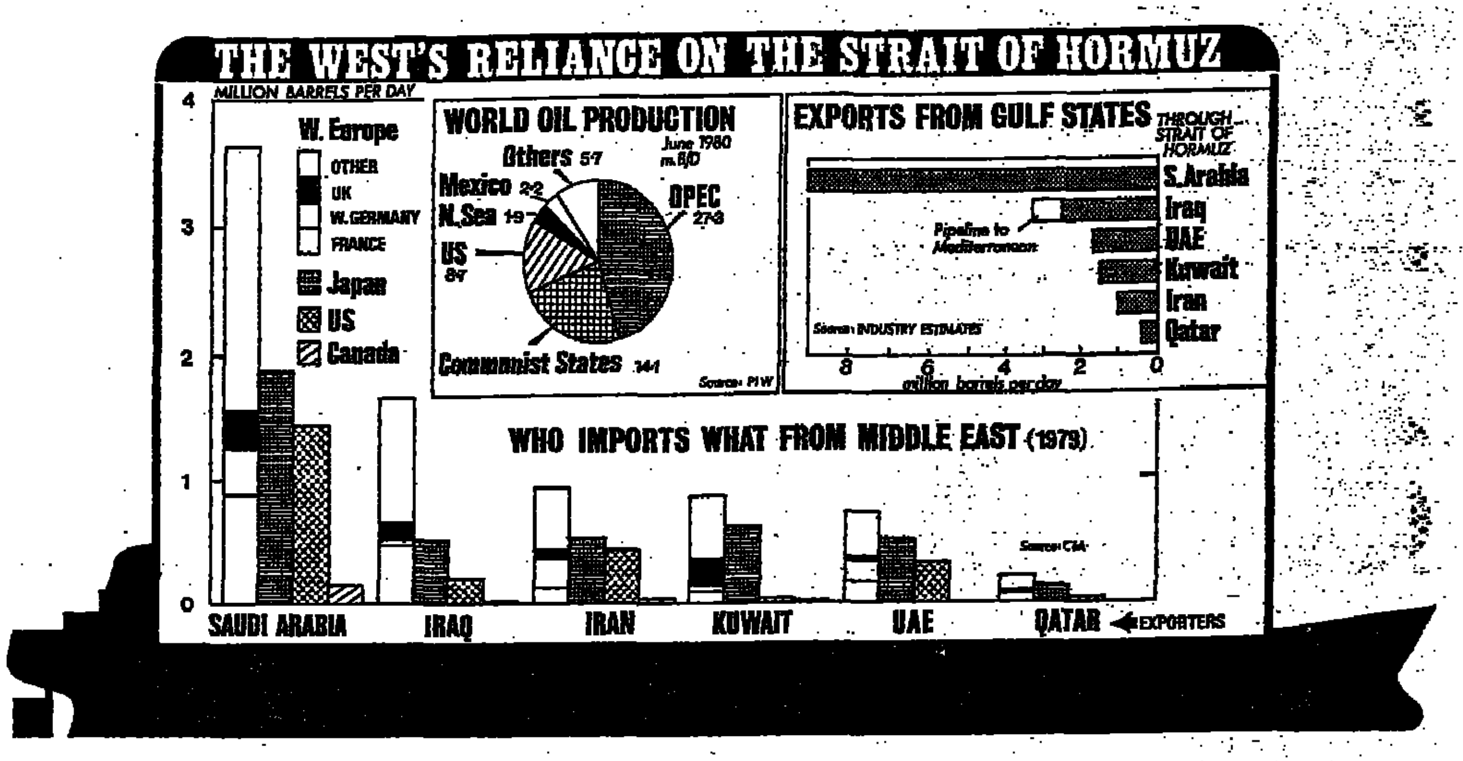
With worldwide oil stocks so high, there was little worry about an energy crisis arising soon. One major oil company pointed out that stocks were now 500m barrels above historic levels—enough to make up for lost Iranian exports over two years.

Even so, International Energy Agency officials are watching *events closely. Before the Iran-Iraq* crisis, production was running at some 8 per cent below the reference level, a sufficient drop to trigger the oil-sharing agreement. As demand has also fallen substantially, no member country has considered it necessary to call for emergency sharing.

Under the emergency scheme, a shortage of 7 to 12 per cent would cause Governments to curb demand by at least 7 per cent and share the available oil. *A more severe reduction, of 12* per cent or more of normal supplies, would lead Governments to restrict demand by at least 10 per cent.

The Agency estimates that if total supplies were cut by 10 per cent, and demand by 7 per cent, North America could last for well over a year before its stocks were reduced to a minimum operational level. On the same assumption, Japan could last for over three years and Western Europe for over four years.

Even without the scheme being officially applied, Agency members will be testing the emergency supply system by carrying out a dummy run of a severe supply disruption. This "dress rehearsal" is due in October and November. At present, there are no signs of that rehearsal being postponed.



Diplomats fear more states may enter war

BY IHSAN HIJAZI IN BEIRUT

ARAB STATES may find it difficult to stay out of the war between Iran and Iraq if the conflict intensifies, according to diplomats here.

The Kuwaiti Government held an emergency meeting yesterday as demonstrators chanting pro-Iraqi slogans marched through the streets.

The only third country so far involved was believed to be from Jordan. Iraqi military and civilian aircraft have been landed at bases there to keep them out of reach of Iranian strikes.

In Abu Dhabi, an official said that events were "very worrying" and it was likely that a conference would take place soon between the Gulf leaders to co-ordinate their reaction.

Th Gulf states have large Iranian communities. In Dubai there are about 20,000, though a number are from southern Iran and are Sunnis.

King Hussein of Jordan has openly supported Baghdad and Amman Radio reported yesterday that he had spoken to President Hafez Assad of Syria and Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

Officials in Beirut believe Baghdad's decision to order its forces to invade Iran territory in retaliation to Iranian *action in the Hormuz Strait* could be a prelude to an attempt to capture three Arab-claimed islands occupied by Iran nine years ago.

The islands, Abu Mussa and Greater and Smaller Tunbs, are located near the Strait about 400 miles south of Iraqi territory.

Hormuz Strait still open despite the conflict

THE STRAIT of Hormuz remained open yesterday despite some reports that it had been closed because Iran had declared the northern side of the Gulf a war zone, **Simon Henderson reports from Bahrain.**

The Middle East Navigation Aids Service (MENAS) in Bahrain, which operates navigation beacons and buoys throughout the Gulf, said that traffic was normal through the strait. This was confirmed by local shipping agents.

The Iranian declaration, which also said all ships should leave the Shatt al-Arab estuary immediately was later being broadcast in the form of a navigation warning by Bahrain Radio on its maritime frequencies.

Iran has stipulated that ships entering the Gulf must sail 12 miles south of the disputed island of Abu Musa just west of the Strait, 12 miles south of Sirri Island, slightly further west and a terminal for an Iranian offshore oil-field and 12 miles south-west of Farsi Island in the centre of the Gulf.

This would imply that all shipping is having to stay away from Kharg Island, the main Iranian crude oil terminal. The frequency of tankers berthing there has declined due to the post-revolutionary drop in Iran's oil production. But experts think that to meet supply demands, at least one tanker needs to load there every two or three days.

Normal traffic coming into the Gulf through the Strait of Hormuz runs at 28 ships a day in each direction, of which more than 70 per cent are tankers. With traffic to all Iraqi and Iranian ports inhibited because of the fighting this figures could drop dramatically in the next few days.

Apart from Iran and Iraq, the other two most powerful naval forces in the area are the U.S. and the Soviet Union. The U.S. anchorage facility in Bahrain was yesterday occupied by one one ship although three days ago, three vessels were reported there.

The U.S. embassy in Bahrain refuses to comment on the movement of the fleet, known as the Middle East Force, which usually *comprises* three destroyers.

The Soviet Union always has a spy trawler if not a destroyer on station in the Strait of Hormuz. Both the U.S. and the Soviet Union have considerable reinforcements available in their Indian Ocean fleets.

U.S. fears grow for hostages

By David Buchan in Washington

THE U.S. Administration is showing increasing concern for the safety of the American hostages in Iran, but has had to halt any approaches to Iran about the hostages' release as "a practical matter" while the fighting lasts, Mr. Edmund Muskie, Secretary of State, said yesterday.

Mr. Muskie has also been in touch with Dr. Kurt Waldheim, United Nation's Secretary-General to examine means of trying to stop the conflict in the Gulf area.

Yesterday, a State Department official said the U.S. was "strictly enforcing" its embargo on the arms and weapon spare-parts shipments it had imposed on Iran after the seizure of the hostages.

"We are encouraging other sanctions-imposing countries *to police their programmes* tightly," the official added. He acknowledged Iran could probably obtain spare parts for American weapons from other countries—principally outside NATO

Tanker owners pull out of Gulf

BY OUR SHIPPING CORRESPONDENT

THERE ARE usually up to 300 ocean-going vessels in the Gulf and, of these, about 30 fly the British flag. In view of the increasing tension, tanker owners have been reluctant to take their ships into the Gulf unless they are fixed for a specific cargo.

As a result the number of ships in the Gulg may now be no more than 200 and a sizeable number of tankers are moored in the Gulf of Aden, and numbers are increasing daily.

Imports to Iran and Iraq will be severely curtailed if the war prevents shippers using their Gulf ports.

According to Lloyd's Shipping Economist just over 800 ships a month enter the Gulf through the Straits of Hormuz. On a daily basis, this breaks down to about 12 very large crude carriers and a roughly similar number of general cargo ships.

At the moment shipping movements appear to be running fairly normally through *the Straits of Hormuz but there* are a number of factors which will affect traffic.

The Iranians have declared that territorial waters within 12 miles of their shores institute a war zone and they are not responsible for anything that might occur within this area.

This means that scheduled liner services and tanker operators are unlikely to risk taking their ships into these areas. So far, tanker movements from other Gulf oil terminals in places such as Kuwait and Abu Dhabi are operating normally.

The other factor affecting shipping in the Gulf is that that the British War Risk clubs (mutual insurance associations formed to protect shipowners) have excluded a large part of the Northern Gulf from their policies.

This means that UK shipowners are unlikely to enter the ports of Basra in Iraq and Bandar Khomeini, Abadan and Khorramshahr in Iran without fixing up special insurance in the commercial markets, which will be at prohibitive levels.

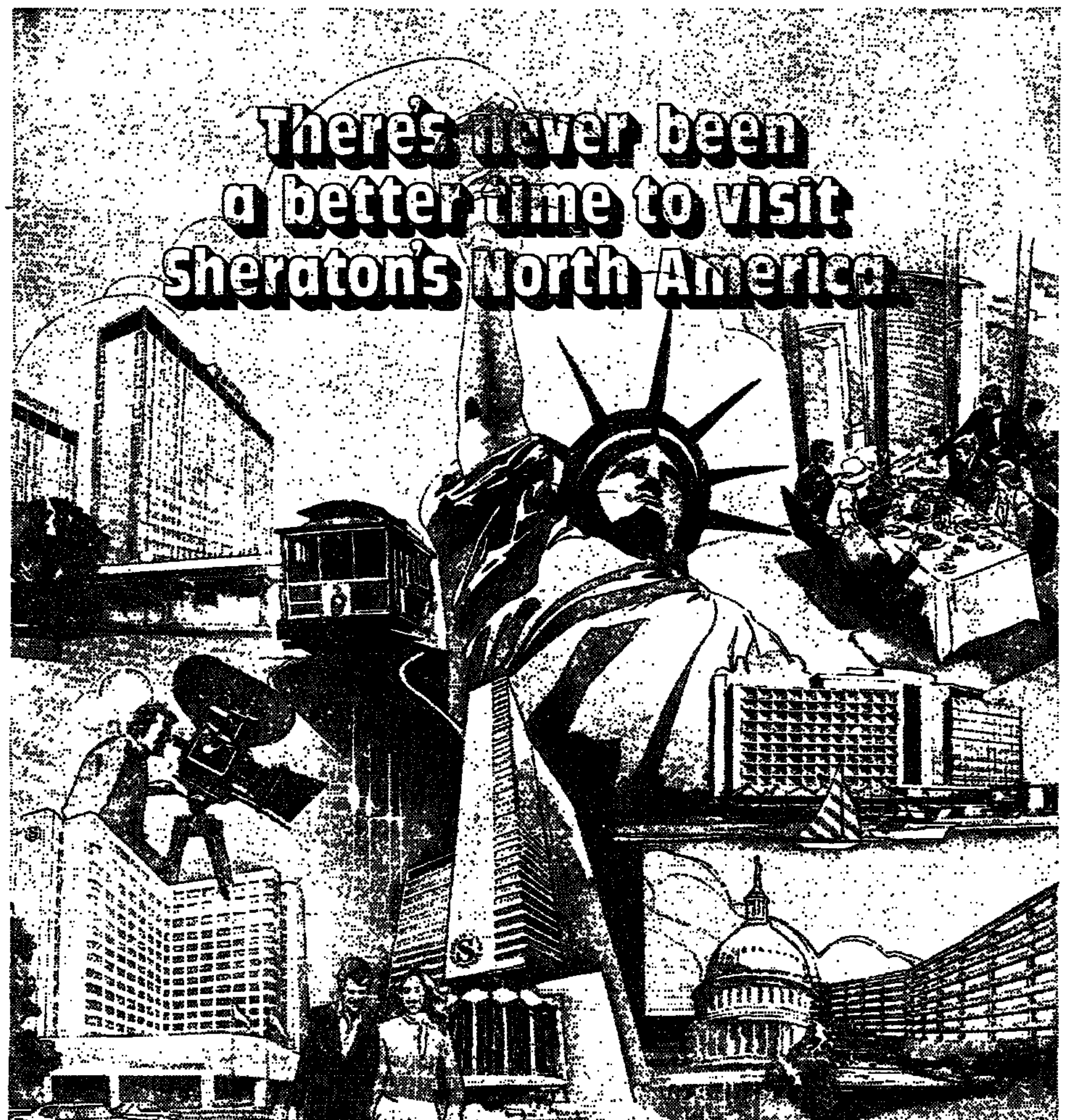
Patrick Cockburn adds: Although Iran controls the west of the Gulf, foreign vessels may be unwilling to risk an Iraqi *attack.*

Iraq's Gulf coastline is narrower, with only two ports at Basra and Umm Qasr, but in the past many of its imports have come through Kuwait, which has excellent facilities. Its capacity to increase its flow of imports coming overland through Jordan, Syria and Turkey is higher than Iran's.

Last year, two-thirds of Iran's imports of 12m tons came through the ports of Bandar Khomeini and Bandar Abbas. Over the last six months the Tehran government, fearing a U.S. blockade of the Gulf, tried to increase *the capacity of its overland* routes through Turkey and the Soviet Union but without much success.

The best route for trucks is through Bazargan on the Turkish border. The rail route through the Qotur valley was cut by Kurdish guerrillas earlier this year but has been re-opened. It has proved impossible to incerase the number of railway wagons crossing the Soviet border at Julfa above 100 a day.

Iraq is better placed. Its short Gulf coastline has made it more heavily reliant on overland transport. A traditional *route runs from Turkey through Zakho in northern* Iraq, but in the last five years, Baghdad has cultivated better relations with Jordan and has imported heavily through Aqaba.



Baghdad aims for quick victory

BY JAMES BUXTON

IRAQ'S STRATEGY in the conflict with Iran depends heavily on achieving a quick victory — partly to justify its having initiated the fighting, and partly to avoid dissipating the advantage it has over Iran in terms of ammunition, spare parts and replacements.

been to recover from Iran

Iraq's long-standing aims have sovereignty over the whole of the Shatt al-Arab waterway and over a 200 square-mile piece of territory on the border zone further north: to restore the three islands near the entrance to the Gulf — seized by the Shah in 1971 — to Arab (but not necessarily Iraqi) control; and to secure autonomy for different ethnic groups in Iran — primarily the people of Khuzestan who are of Arab descent.

In a more general sense, the Iraqi aim appears to be to bring down the Islamic government of Ayatollah Khomeini, possibly to see it replaced by a military administration which be easier for Iraq to deal with, *would not attempt to arouse* discontent and subversion among Iraq's Shia Moslem majority, and would not support the Kurdish population of Iraq.

To achieve these aims, Iraq needs to inflict substantial and humiliating damage on Iran, though possibly stopping short of totally obliterating the Iranian forces.

But already, with the Iraqi attack on the Abadan refinery and the series of claimed attacks and counter-attacks by each side, there are signs that the war has taken on a momentum of its own and that military objectives may be broadening.

So far, the Iraqis say they have taken control of half the 200 square mile area they claim, while it is unclear whether they have actually established effective control over the whole of the Shatt al-Arab.

The claims of both sides need to be treated with caution. But if Iraq has, as it cleams, cut off Abadan and Khorramshahr from the rest of the country, this is a very serious blow to Iran as it severs the Iranian forces from fuel supplies from the refinery at Abadan.

The Iraqi army has considerably greater manpower and *armour than that of Iran, and* has the added advantage that Iran is short of both spare parts and technicians to maintains its tanks. Iran does, however, have considerable strength in artillery.

IRAQ	ESTIMATED FIGHTING POWER	IRAN
200,000	ARMY	120-150,000
2,100	TANKS	1,100
1,800	ARTILLERY	800
350	COMBAT AIRCRAFT	447
4,000	NAVY Personnel	30,000

Though Iran is superior on paper in terms of aircraft, only 30 or 40 per cent of them are serviceable, according to Dr. Avi Plascov of the International Institute of Strategic Studies. They lack both the U.S. technicians and the middle-class Iranian personnel who used to maintain them.

The Iranian navy is larger than the Iraqi navy and has the added advantage of a long coastline to operate from. Should Iran wish to try to block the Strait of Hormuz—perhaps as a means of escalating the crisis to persuade other Gulf states to force Iraq to step down—it would be able to do so from the port of Bandar-Abbas, and it would be hard for the Iraqis to stop them, Dr. Plascov believes.

Similarly the recovery of the three islands—Abu Musa and the Great and Lesser Tunbs, claimed by the United Arab Emirates—would be difficult for Iraq to achieve, given the present strength of the Iranian navy.

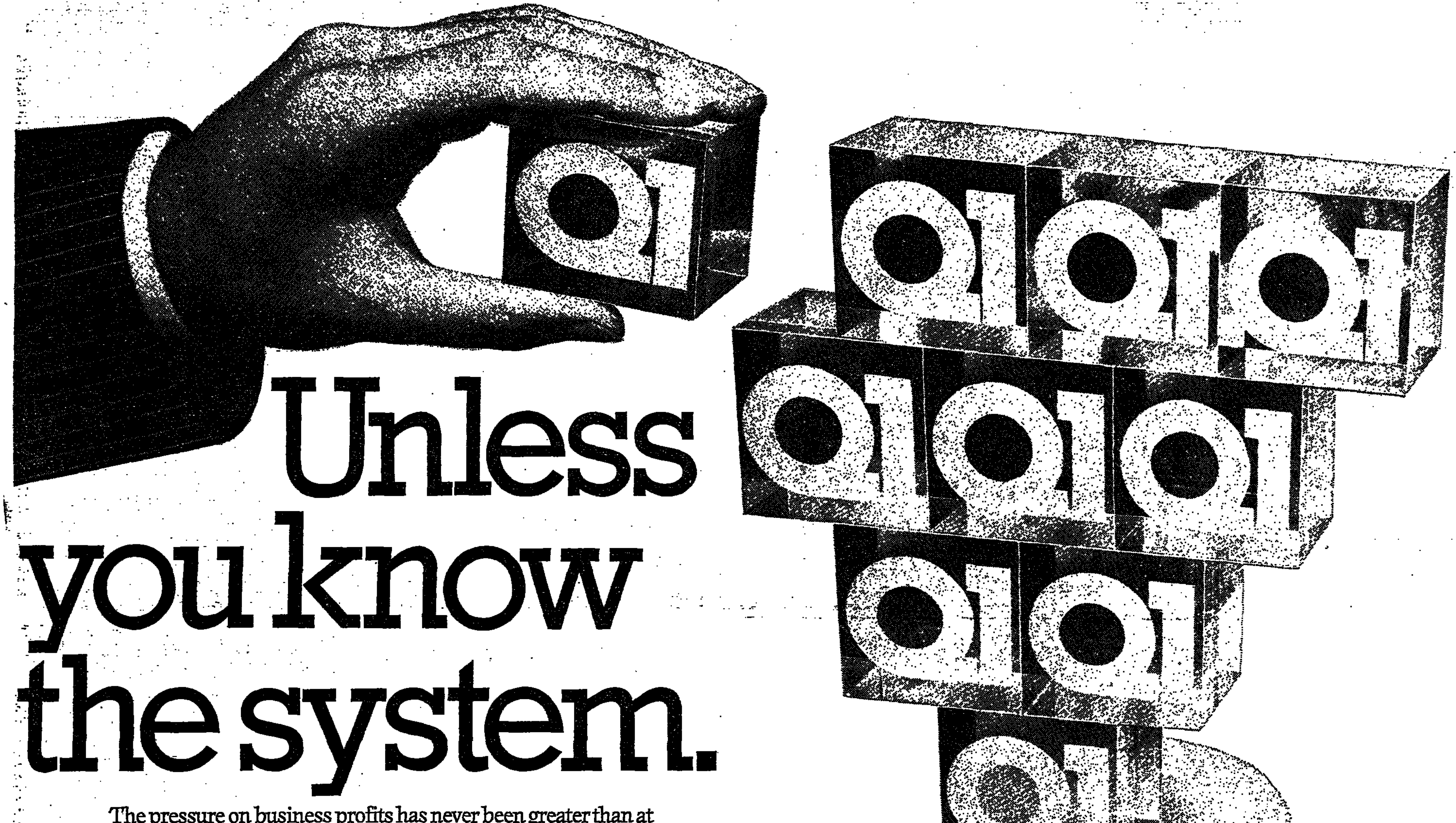
But the Iraqis should have a considerable edge over the Iranians through *their orderly,* efficient military command structure, Dr. Plascov believes. The Iranian command structure is more fragmented, and it is possible that escalations could be caused by local Iranian commanders seizing initiatives on the spot.

The lack of official communications between Iraq and Iran could also make it difficult to negotiate any de-escalation.

For the first few days of fighting, depending on the rate of attrition and the speed with which ammunition is used up, the Soviet Union cannot exercise much leverage over Iraq through the supply or withholding of military supplies.

But its potential leverage will gradually increase if the fighting is prolonged—a further argument for a quick Iraqi victory.

Building profits without increasing turnover is a tricky business



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AMERICAN NEWS

Opinion polls provide a confused picture of U.S. Presidential election

'Don't knows' the deciding factor

BY JUREK MARTIN, U.S. EDITOR IN WASHINGTON

ASSORTED public opinion polls taken recently in the big U.S. states, the main political battleground, are underlining how difficult it is to forecast the outcome of the Presidential election in November.

The most surprising recent survey, out this week, was taken by the Texas Monthly magazine, whose canvass of 1,000 voters found Mr. Jimmy Carter leading Mr. Ronald Reagan by 42 to 34 per cent, with Mr. Anderson at 11 per cent and 14 per cent undecided.

At the end of July, the magazine gave Mr. Reagan a 49 to 30 *per cent lead* over the President with the same 11 per cent for the independent candidate.

Most observers firmly believe that Mr. Reagan can carry Texas (which Mr. Carter took only narrowly against Mr. Gerry *Ford in 1976*) and its 26 electoral college votes, unless the Democratic Party can galvanise the estimated 800,000 Mexican Amberican voters and about half that number of blacks in the state behind the President.

Four years ago, Mr. Carter won 87 per cent of the Hispanic vote and needs to repeat this performance, and in the necessary volume, to survive in this conservative state.

Mr. Carter could also take some heart from the latest California Poll, run by Mr. Mervyn Field, and taken early this month, which found him behind Mr. Reagan in the latter's home state by 29 to 39 per cent, with Mr. Anderson scoring 18 per cent. Mr. Field's July survey had given Mr. Reagan a 19 point lead.

California, with its 45 electoral college votes, had been considered the biggest desert in the western wasteland that is inhospitable to the President. He was campaigning there yesterday, with Senator Edward Kennedy at his side, and some of his aides now dect hope in the state (which Mr. Ford carried by under 27 per cent in 1976), though the optimism runs counter, as in Texas, to the prevailing political wisdom.

The New York Daily News poll of the second biggest state, with 41 electoral college votes, finds a virtual dead heat, with Mr. Carter getting 34 per cent, one more than *Mr. Reagan and* 16 more than Mr. Anderson.

New York is a state, won by more than four points by Mr. Carter in 1976, in which Mr. Reagan had real hopes, in good measure because of Mr. Anderson's appeal there and because the independent candidate's performance might be strengthened by his appearance on the ballot coupled with Senator Jacob Javits as the nominee of the small but influential Liberal Party.

But the tentative evidence is that, Mr. Carter's unpopularity with Jewish Americans notwithstanding, the Democratic Party is slowly beginning to reassert its traditional control in New York.

In pivotal Ohio, however, with *its 25 electoral college votes*, the Columbus Dispatch's poll of more than 1,800 registered voters gives Mr. Reagan a healthy 43 to 30 per cent edge over Mr. Carter, with Mr. Mr. Anderson at 12 per cent.

Mr. Carter squeaked past Mr. Ford *in Ohio* four years *ago* and, by common conseusus, must do so again to win. Mr. Reagan's margin suggests he is having some success in reaching working class votes in this depressed industrial state.

In Illinois, also with 26 electoral college votes, the Chicago Tribune gives Mr. Carter 27 points to 22 for Mr. Reagan and 14 for Mr. Anderson in his home state—but with a very large 35 per cent undediced.

This poll also demonstrates where the strengths of the respective *candidates lie*. In Chicago itself, Mr. Carter scores 50 per cent, with his two major opponents in single figures and 29 per cent unsure. But in the city suburbs, Mr. Reagan assumes the lead, by bigger margins the further away from the city.

TOGETHERNESS: Former adversaries Governor Jerry Brown (left) and Senator Edward Kennedy (right) campaign for President Carter in Los Angeles.

Psephologists have suggested that Mr. Reagan's greatest asset is to be found in the country's increasingly homogenous and relatively affluent suburbias, where party loyalties and Mr. Carter's inherent advantage as a Democrat, are weakest.

However, it is quite possible that Mr. Anderson, as the clear "candidate of conscience" could hurt Mr. Reagan as much if not more than Mr. Carter in some of the wealthier suburbs.

It is necessary to insert the *inevitable caveat that all polls* are transitory and that some of those quoted above do not have great reputations for accuracy. The constant factor is that all show a very high percentage of undecideds, which makes it all the more difficult to predict what *will happen in November*.

Maine residents vote in nuclear referendum

BY DAVID BUCHAN IN WASHINGTON

CITIZENS of Maine yesterday cast their ballots in a referendum over whether to shut down the State's only nuclear power plant, supplying one third of its electricity. If the vote is against, it would be the first such move in the U.S. to close down a reactor already operating.

Managers of the seven-year old Yankee plant have mounted an expensive publicity campaign to warn Maine residents that its closure would boost their electricity bills, and recent surveys suggest this argument may carry the day. But Maine is only one of a growing number of states where the legislatures are passing the buck on nuclear power to a referendum.

Motions to restrict the future development of nuclear power will be on the November 4 ballots in Missouri, Montana, Oregon, South Dakota and Washington. In the last state Governor Dixy Lee Ray, an ardent nuclear power enthusiast *and formerly* head of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, has this month been defeated for the Democratic nomination for re-election.

Concern about nuclear safety, inevitably an issue in the Presidential campaign since the *dramatic accident* at the Three Mile Island plant in March 1979, has also been highlighted by last week's nuclear weapons accident in Arkansas.

When a Titan missile silo accidently blew up because of a fuel leak, the missil's nine megaton *warhead* was catapulted into the countryside. The Air Force insisted there was no radiation leak, and this week the warhead was hauled to a nearby base in containers marked "do not drop."

Maine residents around the Yankee plant at the attractive *coastal town of Wiscasset* are concerned about a recent earthquake, the second strongest the state had ever had. There was no evidence of damage to the Yankee plant, but it reminded many of a possible danger.

If the referendum goes against nuclear power, any subsequent law pased by the Maine state legislature is certain to be challenged by the power company in the courts, on the grounds that nuclear power in the U.S. is a federal, not a state matter.

A spokesman for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which regulates the licensing and operation of the 70 reactors currently in service around the country, said yesterday the Maine initiative could pose a quite new problem. The NRC has frequently acted to close a reactor down temporarily on technical safety grounds, but never permanently on political grounds.

If court battles were to last long enough, the issue might fizzle out, because the Yankee *plant is due to be decommissioned* in 10 years. But Mr. Charles Frizzle, manager of the plant, was in no doubt about the effect of the referendum vote: the company is a Maine corporation, licensed in this state and if the vote went against, it *would be illegal to operate the* plant, he said.

Strike threat by Canadian public servants

OTTAWA — About 47,000 members of the Public Service Alliance of Canada have voted by a 75 per cent margin to strike after last-minute negotiations with the Canadian Federal *Government broke down*.

The union represents Federal Government clerks and staff who work in Government agencies. A previous two-year pay contract expired last November.

Mr. Andy Stewart, President *of the union, said he would meet* Government negotiators today

AP-DJ

World Bank loans for Jamaica

BY *CANUTE JAMES IN KINGSTON*

THE WORLD BANK is considering loans to Jamaica totalling just under $100m (£41m) over the next two years, according to officials of the Bank. Two loans of about *$30m each would be intended to* assist the island's faltering economy, which is running a foreign exchange deficit of about $500m.

According to World Bank officials, the loans are intended for structural adjustment, so *that Jamaica would gain greater* benefits from the bank's traditional project loans.

The project loans being considered for Jamaica include $15m for urban transport, and $14m for expansion of the Kingston free trade zone. World Bank loans to Jamaica over the past three years have totalled $184m and have been used to develop hydro electricity, rehabilitate the sugar industry and improve forestry.

Jamaica is not, however, expecting to receive any benefits from the recent Venezuelan-*Mexican oil rebate facility until* after the impending general election.

Under the scheme, both Latin American oil exporters are to sell oil to several regional governments at 30 per cent below the December 1979 price, with the 30 per cent saving being given to the purchaser as a low interest loan.

Central bank officials here said that Jamaica's participation in the scheme would be made retroactive to January *this year, and they expect to* receive about $100m in loans this year.

Candidates take practical approach to America's trade problems

BY DAVID BUCHAN IN WASHINGTON

"FREE trade never won a fair election," particularly in a race as close as that between President Carter and Mr. Ronald Reagan. So, protectionist noises coming out of the U.S. over the next five weeks have a lot to do with the politicking here.

Both main candidates have well-attested free-trading instincts, but both are vying for the favours of such key constituencies as the car and steel workers. Their votes may determine which way the New York-Michigan industrial heartland goes on November 4, and thus which way the nation turns.

Mr. Reagan last week called for stronger anti-dumping enforcement and the re-introduction of import "trigger prices" to protect American steel from foreign depredations. His object was to steal part of the thunder from the deal which the Carter Administration is trying to arrange.

A return to trigger prices (plus some tax and regulatory relief for U.S. steelmakers) could induce the U.S. Steel Corporation to drop its specific dumping suit against European steel producers.

Both candidates have muttered darkly about curbing Japanese car imports, while Mr. Reagan has blamed shipbuilding's plight on inadequate protection from the Carter Administration.

Yet it is not as bad as it *sounds. When* Mr. *John* Connally dropped out of the primary contests, the country lost the one candidate who openly talked of hitting foreign traders in the groin with higher tariffs or quotas.

President Carter has a generally good trade record in office. The same goes for Mr. John Anderson, the independent candidate, during his 20-year voting record in Congress.

Mr. Reagan has Friedmanite free trade advisers around him, notable among them Mr. Richard Allen. He is the chief foreign policy and trade counsellor and has spent much of his time in recent years helping such companies as Datsun import into the U.S. and Lockheed export out of it.

While the plaintiff U.S. industries do not present a totally united front to the politicians, those companies in the most dire straits naturally cry loudest for protection.

Chrysler, Ford and the United Auto Workers (very many of whose union members have been laid off this year) have called for import curbs on Japanese cars. General Motors has not. Many smaller and less troubled steel companies had their misgivings when U.S. Steel went to court against the Europeans.

So the candidates have fudged their positions. Mr. Carter made a big show of requesting the International Trade Commission, a semi-independent body which makes initial trade rulings, to speed up its inquiry on whether Japanese cars have been the main culprit in Detroit's decline or whether the damage was more self-inflicted.

The ITC was asked to issue its *finding before the November* election. An ITC verdict against the Japanese would have allowed Mr. Carter to impose duties during the election run-up.

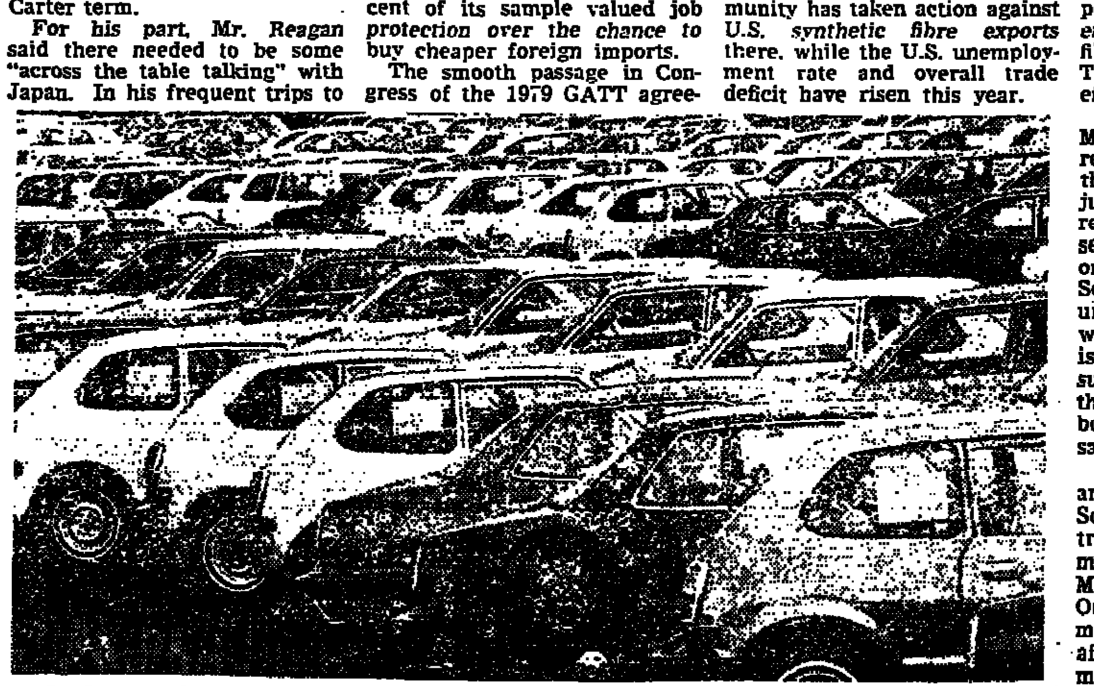
But some Administration officials were privately very relieved that the ITC rebuffed the President's acceleration request, thus possibly avoiding a protectionist move that would have haunted them in a second Carter term.

For his part, Mr. Reagan said there needed to be some "across the table talking" with Japan. In his frequent trips to Detroit in recent weeks to exploit the high unemployment there the Republican candidate has been clearly tempted to go further. But his soothing words to car workers — "Government must help solve the problems it *has created"—turn out, after* textual analysis by Reaganologists to be justification for his new found support of the Government bail-out of Chrysler, rather than for tariffs on Japanese cars.

But it would be silly for U.S. politicians to risk ignoring the protectionist sentiment that exists—quite widespread according to a June New York Times poll which found that 70 per cent of its sample valued job *protection over the chance to* buy cheaper foreign imports.

The smooth passage in Congress of the 1979 GATT agreement to lower trade barriers was a piece of lobbying magic by Mr. Robert Strauss, then the President's trade negotiator. Congress has got stiffer since then. For instance, among ideas being aired on Capitol Hill *is the "buy American" amendment* proposed by Senator John Heinz of the steel-making state of Pennsylvania which proposes that no Federal money be used to buy trains or buses with less than 70 per cent U.S. components.

It is not surprising. Japan still runs a $9-10bn surplus with the U.S. and has become no more relenting on its barriers to imports; the European Community has taken action against U.S. *synthetic fibre exports* there, while the U.S. unemployment rate and overall trade deficit have risen this year.



Dark mutterings about curbing imports of Japanese cars like these ones on a Detroit lot.

Mr. Carter has mixed his decisions on trade this year, with the result that opponents find it hard to attack them as a whole. This year, the President has phased out quotas on specialty steel imports, dropped *voluntary restraint pacts with* Far Eastern shippers of shoes, but extended them on colour television sets and last week signed a textile agreement restraining imports from China.

On the heels of the China textile agreement, he signed a proclamation that the U.S. will raise duties on some European textile imports, mainly woollen goods from the UK, if the European Community does not *end its quotas on U.S. polyester* fibres at the end of the year. The U.S. move would go into effect on January 1.

More controversial have been Mr. Carter's "political" restraints on exports though there is no question of the justification of U.S. trade retaliation against Iran for seizing the hostages. The ban on extra grain shipments to the Soviet Union has not proved as unpopular as originally expected with American farmers, but this is largely thanks to accidents *such as the summer drought in* the U.S. (which cut crops and boosted prices) and increased sales to other markets.

The restraint on machinery and technology sales to the Soviet Union has not gone a treat with the business community, nor indeed with some of Mr. Carter's own trade officials. One former Commerce Department official complained just after he resigned that "one might just as well attempt to square a circle as to expect the Soviets to abandon their misguided cause in Afghanistan under threat of losing American help to build a blue jean factory." Yet Mr. Reagan's attempt to exploit this discontent has sat ill with his well-known hawkishness towards Moscow.

Mr. Carter and Mr. Reagan have emphasised the cure for the trade deficit is to boost exports rather than crimp imports. But "when all is said and done, more is said than done," quipped one Administration official last week, about the fact that so little has been achieved since Mr. Carter first announced a "national export policy," in 1978.

It is, of course, an uphill task to interest most of *America's 250,000 manufacturing* companies in anything else than their big continental home market. A hundred U.S. companies still account for half the country's exports.

Some steps have been taken, however. The Administration *has given a push to legislation* to create export trading companies that would have, as their most valuable feature, equity and the foreign expertise of U.S. banks.

If re-elected, Mr. Carter has promised to try to reduce taxes *on Americans* working abroad and get other countries to follow the U.S. ban on bribery, which American business often feels places them at a disadvantage.

But export credit policy is a shambles. Having failed to get competitor countries to curb their credit subsidies, the Administration has run onto the rocks in trying to beat them at their own game. The Export-Import Bank virtually had to close its doors this summer as Congress procrastinated on raising its lending ceiling *for* 1979-80, and is now seeking some $1bn in private market loans to meet commitments.

The Exim Bank is caught in crossfire between those who have complained it has spent too much of its limited resources on one single sector —aircraft—and U.S. trade unions which think it is exporting their jobs and want Congress to limit the bank's resources further.

These are the sort of pressures that will be around to plague whoever wins in November.

WORLD TRADE NEWS

UK, Mexico move to strengthen trade ties

MEXICO CITY—Mexico and Britain have agreed to strengthen trade and energy co-operation, Mr. David Howell, the Energy Secretary, said yesterday.

He told a Press conference that his talks with Mexican officials had "successfully *prepared the grounds for collaboration*, and we have found a positive response (from Mexico) concerning our intention of establishing joint ventures not only in oil, but also coal and trade."

On the North-South dialogue, he said that one of the purposes of his visit had been "to support the lead Mexico has taken in seeking to get the nations of the world to focus on the vital problems of energy and development."

On nuclear technology Mr. Howell said Britain was prepared to collaborate with Mexico though "everything depends on the decisions Mexico has yet to make in this field."

During his five-day visit he met Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo and top ministers and visited the Campeche oil fields in the Gulf of Mexico.

Reuter

Creusot joins Czech project

By Terry Dodsworth in Paris

CREUSOT-LOIRE, the French engineering company which recently caused an international stir with a steel plant contract from the Soviet Union, is to take part in a further consortium agreement with another Eastern bloc country, Czechoslovakia.

The French group will be a junior partner in the deal, alongside Andritz, the Austrian company, which is part of the Kreditanstalt organisation. The two Western companies will be building a cellulose magnesium bisulphite plant at Paskov in Moravia, for a total of FFr 1.3bn ($316m).

Buss to build Alcan plant

By John Wicks in Zurich

BUSS, the Swiss company, has received an order from Alcan Smelters and Chemicals for the construction of an aluminium fluoride unit at an Alcan site in Jonquiere, Quebec. Total cost of the project is given as C$60m (£21.4m). The plant will consist of two production lines of 15,000 annual-tonnes capacity each and is to come on stream in 1984.

Ericsson wins £10m orders

By William Dullforce in Stockholm

telecommunications group, said yesterday it had won two new orders worth $25m (£10.4m) for its telephone exchanges from Latin America.

The Costa Rica telecommunications administration has contracted to pay $13m for a large AXE telephone exchange and "substantial volumes" of other exchange equipment.

In Colombia, the telecommuni*cations administration of Medel*lin has placed a $12m order for Ericsson exchanges.

India criticises EEC proposals to alter tariff preference system

BY GARETH GRIFFITHS

INDIA has strongly criticised EEC proposals to alter the Community's generalised system of tariff preferences (GSP), which the Indians say will penalise investment in processing industries in the Third World.

Mr. H. E. P. K. Dave, the Indian Ambassador in Brussels, told a meeting of the European Parliament's External Economic Relations Committee in Cam*bridge yesterday that the com*mittee's own proposals for objective criteria to determine trading classification was even more unacceptable.

Mr. Dave said that, although the planned scheme would be to India's benefit over the next five years (because of its low-cost exports) investment in more sophisticated industries such as processing, which was bound to need competition on favourable terms with industrialised economies would be inhibited under the system.

The committee is examining the 10-year-old generalised system of preferences, which is due for renewal by the end of the year.

It believes account should be taken of the principles laid down by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), in *particular those relating to trade* unions and the employment of children. Mr. Dave said India had been very active in enacting ILO regulations, but it would not like labour standards to be connected to areas such as trade talks. Conditions were different and the next move would be such a code for loans. He said India did not wish to become an associate of the Community, but wanted stability in trading.

India is at present engaged in talks with the Commission on a renewed general co-operation agreement. Indian officials are angry, however, that the EEC *has not implemented* an agreement giving access to commercial funds. Such access would provide the stimulus for more co-operation between European and Indian companies, Mr. Dave said.

The committee heard evidence from five Commonwealth ambassadors and high commissioners from Australia, Canada, India, Malaysia, and New Zealand. All five complained about the way EEC trading policy affected them.

Sir James Plimsoll, the Australian High Commissioner, said his country had been affected more than any other by Britain's entry into the EEC.

Vienna drive to boost UK sales

BY PAUL LENDVAI IN VIENNA

MR. RUDOLF SALLINGER, the President of Austria's Federal Chamber of Economy, arrives in London today on a three-day official visit to discuss possibilities for increasing bilateral trade with Britain in talks with Mr. John Nott, the Secretary of State for Trade, and Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of Industry.

The Chamber has warned about a forthcoming "difficult period of a trial of strength" for Austrian exporters, but Austria has enjoyed great success in its trade with Britain over the last decade.

During the 1970s, Austrian imports from Britain rose only by 25.7 per cent to Sch 7.86bn (£256m), while Austrian exporters managed to double their sales to the UK from Sch 4.55bn in 1970 to Sch 9.18bn (£300m) in 1979.

However, of immediate concern is the fact that the trend has changed this year with British exports to Austria during January-June jumping by 20.9 per cent to Sch 4.53bn while, during the same period, Austrian exports to the UK fell by 2.9 per cent to Sch 4.4bn. But Britain is still Austria's fourth largest market, after West Germany, Italy and Switzerland.

Some 50 Austrian companies operate through subsidiary companies in the UK, while 850 other Austrian exporters use local agents to tap the UK market. The Austrian's export primarily textiles and clothing, machinery, paper and steel.

GEC wins £6m contract for Sri Lanka generators

BY OUR WORLD TRADE STAFF

GEC MACHINES of Rugby has won a £6m contract to supply water turbine-driven generators to the Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka for a dam and hydro-electric scheme near *Kandy*.

The company will build and commission a power plant. On-site construction starts in 1983 and the power unit should be commissioned the following year.

This brings the total value of contracts won by GEC Machines this month to £8.4m. Earlier it announced agreement for the construction of a £2.4m hydro-electric plant in India.

Our Gibraltar correspondent adds: GEC Telecommunications of Coventry has won a £600,000 order to introduce international *direct-dialling facilities* and to expand the Government telephone exchange in Gibraltar. The new equipment will be operational by the end of 1982.

This order extends a long relationship between GEC and the Gibraltar authorities. The company has been the main telephone equipment supplier to Gibraltar since 1926.

Ricoh changes marketing scheme for Europe

FINANCIAL TIMES REPORTER

RICOH OF JAPAN plans to *market office paper copiers* in Europe under its own name rather than under distributor brand names, the company said.

Ricoh will start marketing dry-toner equipment in Britain, France and West Germany, having recently changed its distributor agreements.

Meanwhile, Ricoh's existing liquid-toner marketing agreements in Europe with Hoechst AG's Kalle-Infotec and Nashua Corporation, which both sell *Ricoh copiers under their own* brand names, will continue until expiry in 1983.

Ricoh will sell dry-toner copiers in Britain and West Germany through local subsidiaries, which in turn will establish dealer networks, while sales in France, and later elsewhere in Europe, will be conducted through local distributors.

The company is studying the possibility of manufacturing photocopiers in Europe, though machines will continue to be exported from Japan for the time being. The company predicted the market for liquid-*toner copiers would be squeezed* to some extent by dry-toners in the years immediately ahead.

Jakarta to start giant power plant

By Richard Cowper in Jakarta

CONSTRUCTION work on Indonesia's most ambitious power plant to date will start early next year, according to PLN, Indonesia's state-owned *electricity company*.

The plant, which is estimated to cost around $700m will, be built at Surabaya in north-west Java. Among the foreign companies expected to play key roles in the design and construction of the project are Babcock and Wilcox and Montreal Engineering.

The plant, which will be designed to run by either coal or oil will be built in two stages with a total initial capacity of 800mw. The first 400mw stage is to be completed by 1984 and the second by 1985. The power plant will be the largest ever built in Indonesia and is ultimately destined to be expanded to 3,000mw to provide electricity across Java.

The main chunk of the financing will be a $350m loan from the World Bank with the rest coming from a mix of aid, export credits and Indonesian government money. Details of the ultimate package have yet to be finalised. A large number of the 22 separate tenders for the project have already gone out with most of them due to be closed by the end of this year. The government hopes that all the contracts will be signed by May, 1981.

Indonesia now has around 150m people, of whom only 14m are electricity users.

The Surabaya power plant will ultimately be linked to a high voltage transmission line which is to run the whole length of Java, with feeder lines running from it.

BP in deal with Petromin

By Martin Dickson, Energy Correspondent

BRITISH PETROLEUM has signed a five year contract to buy 200,000 tonnes a year of liquefied petroleum gas from Petromin, the Saudi Arabian *state oil company*.

This is BP's first direct hydrocarbons purchasing deal with Petromin, which is marketing an increasing proportion of Saudi oil and products.

Casinos decision expected today

Financial Times Reporter

CORAL Leisure Group expects to learn today whether it has succeeded in retaining licences for its London casinos.

The South Westminster Licensing Committee has been hearing Coral's defence against the arguments of the Gaming Board and the police that the clubs should be closed, following allegations of breaches of the gaming laws.

Meanwhile, Mr. Bernard Coral, former head of Coral's casino division, was yesterday cleared of a conspiracy charge which alleged a boardroom cover-up of crime at the clubs.

He had been accused with Mr. Bryan Sherley-Dale, former managing director of Coral esainos, of plotting to deceive auditors and shareholders of Coral.

But this chrage, and a related one of attempting to defeat justice and hiding criminal offences from casino staff, from police and the Gaming Board were dropped at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court.

Mr. Coral still faces other charges and was remanded on £20,000 bail to appear at Highbury Corner magistrates' court on December 3.

He and former Coral accountant, Mr. Dudley Murray, who was bailed to the same date, are accused of plotting to breach the 1968 Gaming Act and Theft Act.

Milk delivery charges queried

THE MINISTRY of Agriculture asked Express Dairies to explain reports that it is charging some London customers an extra delivery fee.

The dairy is said to be charging about 6,000 customers in North London some 10p extra a week for milk delivery.

Military radio plans announced

PRODUCTION lines for a new military radio are to be set up in Britain and Belgium by companies in the Philips Group under plans announced yesterday.

Midland Bank drops home loan minimum to £10,000

BY TIM DICKSON

ANOTHER clearing bank is expanding its mortgage scheme, to attract first-time buyers. Midland Bank announced yesterday that it is prepared to offer loans of as little as £10,000, compared with the previous minimum, when house mortgages were introduced at the bank in June last year, of £20,000.

The maximum amount which the Midland will lend is £150,000 over a maximum term of 25 years. Interest will still be charged at 2¼ per cent over Midland Bank base rate (currently equivalent to 18½ per cent). with a 10 per cent minimum.

Midland said revision of the minimum advance was made "with the particular aim of helping customers who are first-time house-buyers."

In this, it is following the example of Lloyds Bank, which this summer announced that it was reducing its minimum mortgage from £15,000 to £10,000.

The smallest home loan Barclays will grant is £15,000. National Westminster will generally consider only applications for £20,000 or more.

The stepping up of the clearing banks' presence in the mortgage market comes as demand for home loans has been tailing off. The banks, however, see provision of mortgages as filling an important gap in their range of services.

Midland said yesterday that the maximum amount any couple will be able to borrow will be 2½ times the higher of the two annual salaries (gross before overtime), plus half the lesser salary.

The amount forwarded on loans between £10,000 and £20,000 would range from between 80 per cent and 90 per cent of valuation. or cost if lower. The advance on bigger loans would be limited to 80 per cent of valuation or cost.

New mini krugerrands officially on sale

BY TIM DICKSON

THE NEW "mini" krugerrands are now officially on sale in the UK.

The South African Chamber of Mines said yesterday that $75m (£31m) of thet new coins have been ordered in the past week. These have been sent to distributors of the coins around the world, such as the big bullion houses in London.

The three new krugerrands, which contain one half, one quarter and one tenth of a troy ounce of pure gold respectively, were announced earlier this year as a response to the soaring price of bullion.

The South African Chamber of Mines said yesterday the recent very substantial increase in the price of gold has led to a situation "in which only the more wealthy" are now able to afford to buy the well-known one-ounce coin.

The new krugerrands will be marketed as bullion coins with premiums over the value of the gold content of 5 per cent for the half ounce version, 7 per cent for the quarter ounce, and 9 per cent for the one tenth ounce model.

Based on yesterday's Krugerrand price of £308, the half ounce coin will cost roughly £165, the quarter ounce £85 and the one-tenth ounce £35. Intergold, the chamber's marketing arm in the UK said these were approximate prices subject to fluctuations in the bullion price and dependent on where they were bought.

Mr. L. W. P. van den Bosch, vice-president, Chamber of Mines of South Africa, yesterday predicted that the new coins would achieve the same success as the one-ounce krugerrand.

Building societies face £13.75m tax bill

By Andrew Taylor

BUILDING SOCIETIES face a £13.75m tax bill this year on cash held in investors' accounts. The bill is slightly higher than it would have been had changes in the income tax rate structure not been introduced in the March Budget.

But for these changes, which included abolition of the 25 per cent rate tax band, societies estimate their total bill for 1980 would have been nearer £13.14m.

Interest

Under the composite tax arrangement agreed between societies and the Government, interest payments made to investors are paid net of tax. Societies then remit a total tax bill based on estimates agreed with the Inland Revenue of the average personal tax rate of investors.

The Building Societies Association said the increase in the tax bill had been widely anticipated. Account of it had been taken in society budgets.

However, the increase could mean that, when societies reduce the mortgage rate, *reduction might* be *a quarter of* a percentage point less than might otherwise have been the case.

Index-linked

The BSA said, however, that the size of the tax bill was unlikely to affect timing of any *decision to* reduce society rates. More important to societies was the impact that the Government's index-linked retirement bond, to be launched in November, is expected to have on their funds.

Additions to recognised banks list

Financial Times Reporter

DOW BANKING Corporation and Habib Bank AG Zurich have been placed on the list of recognised banks issued by the Bank of England under the 1979 Banking Act.

There are also 16 newcomers on its list of licensed deposit-taking institutions.

They are: A1 (Investment), Banca Serfin, Banco de Jerez, Bank of Oman, Bank Street Securities. BCF Finance, Bremar Holdings, Century Industrial Services, Chesterfield Street Trust, Cobnar Finance Company, Dunsterville Allen, Girozentrale und Bank der Österreichischen Sparkassen, *The Mardun Investment* Company, Merseyside Finance, PKB Investments, and David Sasson and Co.

Harwall Finance has been removed from the list of licensed deposit-taking institutions.

Nuclear authority criticised over leaks

BY MARTIN DICKSON, ENERGY CORRESPONDENT

THE UK Atomic Energy Authority was criticised yesterday by the Government for failing to report an incident last year at its Dounreay nuclear-power development establishment, Caithness.

The Department of Energy said the AEA should have informed Mr. David Howell, Energy Secretary, of an incident in July, 1979, when *eight men working at Dounreay* —site of Britain's prototype fast-breeder reactor—handled flasks contaminated by small quantities of plutonium.

Four of the men were found to have plutonium in their bodies, although the amounts were not medically significant and there was no public hazard. The department said that although the incident did not have serious implications, it should have been reported to Mr. Howell.

However, the Ministry made clear that the AEA had observed correct reporting procedure in three other incidents at Dounreay, which caused major controversy earlier this month when investigated by BBC's Panorama programme.

The first incident, in 1973, was the loss of an irradiated *fuel pin containing* 10 grammes of plutonium. It was not reported to Ministers because at that time no arrangements for reporting existed.

The second incident was the loss in 1977 of a fuel pin containing 25 grammes of uranium. This was reported to the Government and to Euratom.

The Department of Energy said yesterday there were good reasons to conclude that neither of these pins had left the Dounreay site.

The third incident was an explosion in May, 1977, involving sodium in a solid-waste disposal facility. The department said this had been fully reported at the time and Mr. Howell believed it had been properly dealt with.

The Minister concluded that the reporting arrangements under which the AEA now operates were an effective way of ensuring the industry's performance was kept subject to Government and public scrutiny.

Warning on high cost pits

BY MARTIN DICKSON, ENERGY CORRESPONDENT

THE PRICE paid for coal by the electricity supply industry must not be used by the National Coal Board to subsidise uneconomic pits, Sir Francis Tombs, chairman of the Electricity Council, said yesterday.

He said the electricity industry was "concerned that high cost pits are being kept open beyond their economic lifespan." More than 75 per cent of Britain's mines were more than 60 years old and the task of maintaining and replacing capacity from old and exhausted pits must be formidable.

However, he supported the NCB's plans for new low-cost super-pits and said that only coal and nuclear power could be developed on a scale large enough to meet the anticipated growth in energy demand during the remainder of the century.

A spokesman for the NCB replied last night that the age of a pit did not necessarily indicate inefficiency.

Tyre legislation fails to meet modern conditions, says report

BY KENNETH GOODING, MOTOR INDUSTRY CORRESPONDENT

SOME TYRES which appear safe and legal for use are at least as dangerous at speed in the wet as tyres which are considered illegal and unsafe, says a report published today.

Tyre laws should be changed to take account of modern motoring conditions, say the report sponsors, Dunlop and Motor magazine.

The report says that since the tyre laws were enacted in 1968, motorway mileage in Britain has tripled, suggesting that more motoring now takes place at high speed.

Also, UK motorways were designed originally for lower axle loads and a lower truck density, so ruts in which water can lie are more common than a decade ago.

Cuts in road building expenditure means that roads are less well maintained.

"The combination of these ruts and the higher speeds means that the average driver is more likely than ever before to encounter conditions which can create aquaplaning (when the build-up of water under the tyres completely eliminates their adhesion). And it has been estimated that 30 per cent of all motoring in the UK takes place in the wet," says the report.

Tests independently carried *out at Karlsruhe University, in* West Germany, caused particular concern when a tyre had severe shoulder wear on one side (generally caused by poor track adjustment).

Although such a condition does not look unsafe and it satisfies the law, the tests showed that tyres affected in this way lost 84 per cent of their braking capabilities when *run at 74.5 mph through water* about one-fifth of an inch deep on the road.

The reduction in cornering power was even more dramatic, being essentially zero in the direction in which the worn shoulder was on the outside.

The authors of the report suggest that the tyre laws should be changed to demand a minimum tread depth of 2 mm across the whole width of the tyre, instead of the current legislation which requires a tread pattern to have a minimum depth of 1 mm visible around the entire circumference and across three quarters of its breadth.

White Paper calls for more Government scientists

By Robin Pauley

THE CIVIL Service is seriously in need of scientists with administrative and management skills as well as high level technical knowledge.

The call in a White Paper, published yesterday, for increased recruitment to the scientific section is *made in* spite of the Government aim to cut Civil Service jobs to 630,000 by the next general election.

It emphasises that although there is generally overstaffing, certain areas are seriously undermanned. Another *example* is accountants.

The latest Review of the Scientific Civil Service* says more progressive career development and management and more emphasis on applying scientific knowledge and research findings in policy are needed.

It also calls for more critical *selection of the* research which government needs to do.

The report says the Civil Service takes *only about* 5 per cent of the nation's qualified scientists and only about half of these enter the scientific side.

Industrial recruitment is therefore little affected by the Government's need for scientists, though all sectors of the economy must compete for those specialists in short supply.

The scientific Civil Service would contribute more effectively to industry if its members *understood* the aims and operation of industry better. This would be helped by a greater interchange between the service and industry.

"Many of the problems which the UK faces have a technical content and we believe that the infusion of such knowledge at the top of the service will improve the advice to ministers as they develop policies," the report says.

Although scientists were often associated with research and development, in fact, more than half of those in the scientific Civil Service worked on policy, management of defence projects and specialist services.

The report also says that pay must be sufficient to obtain and retain the necessary staff of suitably high calibre.

UK NEWS

Howe explains Britain's economic policies

BY PETER RIDDELL, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT IN BERMUDA

Sir Geoffrey Howe

SIR GEOFFREY HOWE, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, will, in the next two days, have to explain — and probably defend — British economic policy to as diverse a group of fellow Finance Ministers as he is likely to have to face all year.

He is attending the traditional two-day annual meeting of the Commonwealth Finance Ministers which starts in Bermuda today.

The meeting is, in many ways, a curious relic. Its origins lie in the days of the Sterling Area when Britain was banker and financial counsellor to its former colonies. But now this role has virtually disappeared, and the meeting is left primarily as a talking shop with no decisions to take and only a bland communique to sign.

The discussions do, however, provide an opportunity for preliminary talks ahead of the more important sessions at the International Monetary Fund/World Bank annual meetings in Washington next week. And British Chancellors have been known to float ideas about UK policy for home consumption ahead of the party conference season.

There are no obvious bonds between the ministers, apart from those of history and language. Yet the occasion does provide an opportunity for some of the richer nations (the UK, Australia, Canada and New Zealand) to face up to the problems of the poorer countries which form most of the Commonwealth.

The difficulties of the less-developed countries are likely to dominate the next two days' talks. The philosophy of most of the ministers, is hardly, surprisingly, pro-aid and in favour of new institutions, easier conditions and more international initiatives.

Yet the UK has cut back on its overseas aid programme. In volume terms, British spending is projected to decline from £794m in 1979-80 to £680m in 1982-83 (both figures at constant 1979 prices).

Sir Geoffrey has been unapologetic about this cut.

In his view, overseas aid cannot be exempted from the more general reduction in the level of public spending. Even though the UK's aid commitment is well below the United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of Gross National Product, the UK's performance has still been better than those of a lot of other big industrialised countries.

Sir Geoffrey's view has, anyway, been that aid is only one element in the flows of finance to less developed countries and that private investment is much more important.

After all, the UK has removed all exchange controls on such investment flows to other countries. However, he believes that the extent of such flows depends on how receptive the poorer countries are in their attitude to foreign private investors.

Sir Geoffrey's view is that countries must essentially sort out their own problems within their own boundaries rather than seek solutions in international initiatives.

This may not be the approach of all his fellow finance ministers. A report published earlier this year by the Commonwealth Secretariat ("The World Economic Crisis: a Commonwealth Perspective") concluded that "many of the problems of the international economy cannot be solved by nations acting on their own or in small groups.

"The present tendency of the world's leading nations to seek solutions individually, with too little reference to the global dimension, is a cause of serious concern.

"The interdependence of the world economy is now so strong that there would be a good case for collective action even in times of prosperity and growth; in the crisis situation now prevailing the case for joint action is compelling."

CONTRACTS

£7m steel plant for India

DAVY McKEE (MINERALS AND METALS), Stockton-on-Tees, a Davy Corporation company, has won a £7m contract for an oxygen steelmaking plant to be constructed at Jamshedspur, Bihar, India, for the Tata Iron and Steel Company.

The contract includes two 140-tonne capacity top-blown oxygen furnaces, fume collection hoods and waste gas cleaning and collecting system, flux additions system and all ancillary equipment as well as the computer control equipment.

★

AVON INDUSTRIAL POLYMERS, Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts., part of the Avon Rubber Group, will have more than £1m worth a year of components fitted to Ford's new Escort. Avon will supply a range of 23 different radiator and heater hoses for the Escort range, not only for the UK model but for the cars to be made in West Germany for the European market. The company will also supply seals and transmission bellows to America for the U.S. version of the cra.

★

SPP FIRE PUMPS, a member of the SPP Group, is to supply fire protection pumps for an extension to the Sines oil terminal near Lisbon, under a contract valued at £276,000. Two vertical pumps, each with a capacity of 600 cubic metres per hour against a total generated head of more than 180 metres will be supplied. Each unit is powered by a 769 hp diesel engine, water cooled via a heat exchanger, driving the pump through a right-angle gearbox.

★

The University of London has placed an order with **INTERNATIONAIL COMPUTERS** for a twin 2956 computer valued at more than £1m for use by its management systems division.

★

Data communications equipment orders totalling well over £200,000 have been placed with **SE LABS (EMI)**, Feltham, Middlesex, by the Eastern Electricity Board and the Science Research Council. Both customers have specified the company's new high-speed 9600 bits/sec modem—the Type 9620 device—for use in expansion programmes aimed at increasing the size and scope of their respective computer communications networks.

★

GEC MACHINES, Rugby (subsidiary of General Electric Company) has been awarded a £6m contract by the Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka, for the supply of three semi-umbrella type vertical water turbine driven generators for the Victoria Dam and hydro electric project. Each unit will have a maximum continuous rating of 95,000 kVA; each will weigh 300 tonnes and be housed in a circular casing, 9 metres in diameter. The contract will also cover the supply of excitation equipment, local control panels, isolated phase connections and neutral earthing equipment in addition to the erection and commissioning of the plant.

★

FERRANTI COMPUTER SYSTEMS has received a £3.6m contract to supply three Action Data Automation Weapon Systems (ADAWS 4) for installation in the Type 42 class destroyers now under construction for the Royal Navy. In the type 42 destroyer ADAWS 4 integrates the control of the 4.5-in Mk8 automatic gun, twin Seadart missile launcher, torpedo and air-to-surface missile armed Lynx helicopter, and other weapons, with the sonar, radar and electronic warfare equipment. Each system is based on two Ferranti FM1600 computers.

★

ITT COMPONENTS GROUP has an order from British Telecom (part of the Post Office) for 10 optical time domain reflectometers. The reflectometers are being purchased by British Telecom as standard test equipment for use with the 15 fibre optic transmission systems being supplied to them by STC, GEC and Plessey.

Fund to aid companies with new ideas

BY MICHAEL DONNE

THE National Research Development Corporation, which provides cash for the development of inventions or other projects, has set up the Small Company Innovation Fund (SCIF) to increase its support for smaller organisations requiring small sums for new ideas.

The SCIF has initial resources of £2m provided by the NRDC, and is already considering over 20 applications from small companies for amounts ranging from £10,000 to £60,000.

The corporation said yesterday that the fund will offer a wide range of financial packages, tailored to meet the needs of individual clients. These packages may include equity stakes in the companies, preference shares and loans, as well as other types of finance.

The fund may provide more than 50 per cent of the funds required by *individual clients*, but will not seek to gain control of any company for which it provides cash.

The NRDC sees the new venture as meeting past criticism that not enough of its funds are channelled towards smaller companies.

Broadly, the fund's cash will be allocated to innovative ventures with a good chance of ultimate success. The intention is to offer both venture capital and participate in the risks and successes of the businesses.

The NRDC fund manager in charge of the SCIF is Mr. R. L. S. Blackadder, who also heads the corporation's Management Assistance Group *which provides free consulting* assistance for clients.

The fund is in addition to the new subsidiary, Finovia, set up by the corporation during the year to provide leasing as an extension of the NRDC's activities in the provision of finance for innovation.

The Corporation's annual report for the year to end-March, 1980, shows that its cash position remains strong, with £18.65m on deposit or at the bank—a figure which corresponds closely to its outstanding commitments on projects.

The corporation earned a surplus, after interest and tax for the year, of £8.52m compared *with £8.77m in the* previous financial year.

Licence income was down slightly at £16.86m against £18.1m. This was primarily due to the strength of sterling, since £13.59m of the licence income was received in foreign currencies. The corporation has 571 licences outstanding of which 121 are overseas.

The report shows the corporation substantially increased its activities during the year, authorised new projects rising from 113 to 157—a 40 per cent jump.

The number of current projects in the portfolio at the end of the year was 608, a new record. Of these, 286 are projects with industrial companies, an increase of 30 per cent over the previous year.

This sharp increase in the corporation's activity has continued into the current year.

Among new ventures supported are the Fieldmaster agricultural aircraft in association with NDN Aircraft, and a new 80-passenger hovercraft with the British Hovercraft Corporation and Hovertravel.

SE seeks more time to defend its rules

Financial Times Reporter

THE STOCK EXCHANGE is seeking a further three-month postponement until December, of its initial statement to the Restrictive Practices Court in defence of its rules.

Mr. Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange, said yesterday in London that "a mountain of work" has been involved in preparing explanations and justifications for the 181 rules its lawyers believe may violate the 1973 Fair Trading Act.

He said the Stock Exchange has *already spent £385,000 in* legal fees and other costs associated with preparing its case.

The Exchange originally estimated costs would be between £500,000 and £1m but Mr. Goodison said ultimate costs could be well over £1m.

The case arose automatically from the 1973 legislation, which requires all groups who sell services subject to defined terms and conditions, to either abandon those conditions or demonstrate in the court that they are in the public interest.

The Stock Exchange was referred to the Office of Fair Trading in the autumn of 1978, which in turn referred to the court.

It gave notice of reference last September, allowing the exchange three months to submit a statement of its case and a list of relevant documents.

Mr. Goodison said this type of inquiry was inappropriate and argued that an independent Government inquiry, such as a Royal Commission, would be cheaper and more balanced.

Five face 'false money charges'

BY RAYMOND HUGHES, LAW COURTS CORRESPONDENT

"FALSE MONEY" was created by a company in the London and County Security group, the secondary bank which collapsed in 1973, to inflate its balance sheet, it was alleged at the Old Bailey yesterday.

Bogus cheques totalling £4m —drawn on accounts not having enough money to meet them—were paid to London and County (*A and D*) *just before* the end of its accounting period in September, 1973, said Mr. David Smout, QC.

A and D then issued bankers' drafts to enable the cheques to be met a few days later.

Five businessmen associated with London and County are charged with conspiring to defraud the shareholders and creditors of the group holding company, London and County Securities Group (L and C) and creditors and depositors of A and D.

The five, Mr. Woolf Perry, Mr. Brian McMenemy, Mr. John Hillman, Mr. Robert Rubin and Mr. Michael Davidson, all plead not guilty.

They are accused of conspiring with Mr. Gerald Caplan, London and County's chairman and managing director, to prepare and publish a false balance sheet for A and D for the period ending September 30, 1973.

Mr. Smout said that A and D had window-dressed its accounts for March 31, 1973, by borrowing £25m short-term on the money market. Unattractive though the practice was, it did reveal the company's ability to raise real money at short notice, he added.

But then someone had the idea that it was not necessary to go to the expense of borrowing real money. All that was required was for someone to provide a cheque. It did not matter if he did not have the funds to meet it because by the time it was presented A and D would have transferred the money to cover it.

"This is not window-dressing in the sense of borrowing money from the market," said Mr. Smout. "This is the creation of false money by A and D, providing its own finance to enable a cheque to be put into its records as assets.

"The prosecution alleges that, to present a strong balance sheet, Mr. Caplan, Mr. McMenemy and Mr. Perry so lowered their standards that they were prepared to persuade others to provide cheques in that way."

The hearing continues today.

Benefits of tourism to Scotland decline

BY RAY PERMAN, SCOTTISH CORRESPONDENT

THE VALUE of the tourism industry to Scotland has declined because the country fails to attract its share of holiday makers from within the UK, according to a report from the Scottish Council for Development and Industry.

Tourist spending in real terms in Scotland has been falling since 1972, while in Britain as a whole the figure has been rising.

The report, published yesterday, said this situation arose because British tourists are put off by the high cost of travel and accommodation in Scotland. There had been a steady rise in the number of tourists from overseas.

To counter the trend it was essential to maintain public transport and make use of concessionary passes, which can be used for journeys on ferries, trains and buses.

The report suggested there should be more direct air and sea links between Scotland, Europe and the U.S., from where most overseas visitors come. This would reduce their travelling costs and encourage them to spend more in Scotland, rather than saving their shopping for the return trip

Hoteliers and retailers could increase tourism's benefit to the economy by insisting that the food and goods they sell are produced in Scotland.

Fixed overheads could be offset by increasing the short tourism season in Scotland through such measures as developing new winter sports facilities.

Increasing the Benefits from Tourism, Scottish Council, 23, Chester Street, Edinburgh EH3 7EN, £2.

Popular spots on display

VISITORS TO five of London's most popular tourist centres will soon be able to identify quickly the key features of the areas on indicators, to be erected at Bankside, Lambeth Palace, Parliament Square, South Bank and Tower Bridge.

The stainless steel indicators has been designed by the architect's department of the Greater London Council for the Silver Jubilee Walkway Trust. The Lambeth Palace indicator will be unveiled on October 1 by Dr. Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Parliament Square one on October 7 by Mr. Norman Tebbitt, the minister responsible for tourism.

The indicators show the chief features of the locality and the route of the 12-miles of walkway. They have been donated by ICI, Courage and Charrington.

BTA plans big U.S. sale efforts

Financial Times Reporter

AMERICANS MAY be making more than 5m visits a year to Europe Mr. Len Lickorish, director-general of the British Tourist Authority (BTA), told U.S. travel agents yesterday at a conference held in The Aviemore Centre in Scotland.

Tourism, said Mr. Lickorish, would be one of the major growth businesses in the future. He added that BTA would be increasing its North American marketing efforts.

He told members of the Association of Retail Travel Agents how tourism had proved increasingly resilient to recession.

Holidays and travel had now attained a high place in consumer preferences, changing from a semi-luxury into a near-necessity.

Value for money, not cheapness, was sought by travellers. They wanted quality and satisfaction.

The availability of cut-price flying encouraged visitors to make individual arrangements instead of buying packages. This benefited countries with bargain ground travel facilities —such as Britain with its Highlands and Islands Travel Pass and its Britrail pass.

As a result, over 80 per cent of visitors to Britain made their own travel arrangements.

EEC grants £29m more for Britain

BY LISA WOOD

MORE THAN £4.6m has been granted in Common Market aid to reimburse the UK Government for regional aid it granted to Carreras Rothmans for setting up of a cigarette factory in County Durham.

This is the single largest amount granted towards British industrial development under the latest EEC Regional Fund grants.

A total number of awards worth £29m to the UK have been made in this, the third allocation under the fund's 1980 budget. This brings regional fund grants to the UK to £145m this year, and to £558m since the fund began operations in 1975.

Carreras Rothmans opened the factory in Spennymoor last year. It now employs 483 people and will employ 750 by July next year. The company said that it had received aid, given by the Government to encourage employment in areas of high unemployment, and the EEC money would be paid to the Department of Industry.

About two thirds of the awards are made towards infrastructure projects, mainly in Scotland and Wales, which will receive £6.93m and £8.50m respectively.

In Northern Ireland, the Government will receive £4.2m partly to reimburse it for aid granted to Fisher Body whose Belfast factory makes rear seat belts and other car parts.

FT architecture award

FIVE DESIGNS, out of 68 entries, have been selected as finalists for the 1980 Financial Times Industrial Architecture Award.

Mr. Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, will present a trophy to the winner on December 5.

The five finalists are:

CEGB South Western Regional Headquarters, Bristol. Designers, Arup Associates, London; Builders, John Laing Construction

New Factory for Landis and Gyr, London. Designers, Michael Aukett Associates, London; Builders, Miller Buckly Construction

Advance Industrial Unit, Warrington New Town. Designers, Nicholas Grimshaw of Farrell/Grimshaw Partnership, London; Builders, Cruden Construction

Advance Industrial Building, Gillingham, Kent. Designers, Nicholas Grimshaw of Farrell/Grimshaw Partnership, London; Builders, Laing Management Contracting

Draught Beer Department, Greene King and Sons, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk. Designers, Michael Hopkins Architects, London; Builders, Bovis Construction

Accord over Euro travel cheque group

AGREEMENT HAS been reached on the structure of Euro Travellers' Cheque International, the company being set up to take control of the Thomas Cook travellers cheque subsidiary of Midland Bank.

The company, in which Midland will keep a 20 per cent interest, will be based in Brussels. The names of the financial institutions from 12 European companies participating have not yet been revealed.

£30,000 for table

SALEROOM

BY ANTONY THORNCROFT

A WHITE-PAINTED table designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh, the Scottish artist and architect, sent Christie's autumn season off to a good *start yesterday*. It was sold to the Fine Art Society, London, for £30,000. The table, 92 cms wide, was commissioned in 1901 by Fritz Warndorfer, a Viennese businessman, as part of the furnishings of a music salon.

A bronze mounted bench, probably late 19th-century Italian, sold for £2,200, and a bronze and ivory figure of Salome by Henri Fugère for £1,500. A de Morgan lustre charger was bought by the Australian National Gallery for £280. The sale of art nouveau, art deco and studio pottery realised £85,522 in total.

Already this season good furniture has been attracting high prices. At Bonhams on Thursday a pair of early George III black japanned serpentine commodes sold for £29,000; an Italian stipetto by Gatti, made for the Paris Exposition, 1855, made £17,000; and three items that had belonged to the Brownings realised £3,800 for Mrs. Browning's desk, £3,000 for Robert Browning's table, and £1,400 for a small silver-plated kettle. The auction brought in £200,000 in total which is high for Bonhams.

At Phillips' sale of the contents of Nunwell House, I.o.W., a set of ten early George III dining-chairs in the manner of Ince *and Mayhew fetched* £21,000.

Phillips disposed of several items of Cape Huguenot furniture from the family of Sir Charles Molteno, the first Prime Minister of the Cape in the early 19th century.

Courtauld to close weaving mill

BY MAURICE SAMUELSON

SAMUEL COURTAULD, the weaving division of the troubled Courtaulds textile group, is to make nearly a quarter of its 3,000 workforce redundant.

The 700 redundancies involve the closure of a mill at Braintree, Essex, and affect four other plants in Essex and Lancashire.

They bring to more than 10,000 the number of jobs axed by the whole Courtauld group in the past six months. The total over the past 18 months now exceeds 22-000.

At Braintree, the closure of the 100-year-old mill will put all its 265 employees out of work. The plant has been operating at a low capacity for the last six months.

Another 30 jobs will go at the nearby Halstead weaving mill and 50 more at a dye house at Bocking.

The plants affected in Lancashire are at Nelson, where the Valley Mills will lose 300 out of 480 workers and at Leigh, where the Bedford New Mill will lose 86 of its 400 workers.

In Essex, the announcement brought an angry reaction from textile unions. Mr. Tony Whiteley, divisional officer of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, said the Braintree workers would not accept the closure, which would make the town "barren of employment prospects."

Members of ASTMS and other unions have formed a joint action committee to try to save the mill and to fight other redundancies in Samuel Courtauld. They are to meet the management next Monday.

The loss of 22,000 jobs over the past year and a half means that Courtauld's UK workforce is now dow n to80,000, compared with 136000 a decade ago.

The recent cuts in the Northern spinning division reduced the number of mills in that division from 42 to 35. The Samuel Courtaulds company has 11 plants including Braintree.

In its last financial year, Courtaulds made pre-tax profits of £68.1m, compared with £64m in the previous year. The group explained the closure of the seven spinning division mills as part of a modernisation programme

Sealink announced yesterday that it was preparing proposals to close the Heysham-Belfast roll-on/roll-off freight service at the end of the year.

The company said: "This service has operated at a considerable loss for some years and it is estimated the deficit this year will exceed £1m."

The **Birkin Group** of lace manufacturers is to introduce short-time working for 300 of its employers at factories in Nottingham, Long Eaton and Borrowash. The majority of employees will be affected, including departmental heads and middle management.

The company has applied for Government assistance under the Temporary Short Time Working Scheme. Mr. W. A. Tunnicliffe, Birkin's chairman, said: "Due to the recession all prices are under tremendous pressure. In several cases we have been forced to sell at cost or less in order to maintain employment and production."

Charnos, the hosiery manufacturer with factories in Ilkeston and Long Eaton, Derbyshire, is to make 50 workers redundant next month.

A Cumbrian foundry company which six months ago had plans for a large expansion in its workforce may now have to make some workers redundant. **Precision Products** of Alston, which employs 58 people at two foundries, is being forced by a drop in orders to concentrate production in its main foundry building and some jobs may be lost between now and the end of the year.

A total of 32 workers were declared redundant yesterday by the **Spalding Sheepskin** Company which is to close its factory at Spalding, Lincs.

Bowater delegation to lobby the EEC

By Pauline Clark, Labour Staff

A DELEGATION representing the condemned Bowater newsprint-mill at Ellesmere Port is going to Brussels next Monday to argue for imposition of tariffs on newsprint imports.

The delegation will meet the EC director general for industrial affairs. It hopes to persuade the EEC to save the Bowater mill. The mill is threatened with closure this autumn, with the loss of 1,600 jobs, because of competition from foreign paper imports.

Mr. Andrew Pearce, Member of the European Parliament for Cheshire West, said yesterday he hoped the delegation would be joined by Mr. Ray Bernie, chief executive of Ellesmere Port borough Council, and "a small number of other interested people."

The delegation would discuss use, for the first time, of the existing mechanism for applying a tariff on newsprint imports.

The arrangements for the Brussels meeting followed talks with Viscount Davignon at the European Parliament, Strasbourg, last week. He undertook to raise urgently the problem of Britain's newsprint imports—if the British Government pressed him to do so—when he visits Canada shortly.

Mr. Pearce suggested several moves to save the mill. He urged Bowater to reaffirm its wish to keep the mill open and to invest in the plant. He urged local unions to give guarantee that high productivity would be sustained.

He urged newspaper publishers to argue the case to maintain newsprint production in Britain, to protect their long-term interests, and to agree "to a modest price rise by Bowater, subject to a guarantee of supply."

He also wanted the Government to use its powers through the EEC to impose a tariff on newsprint imports.

Flour mill maintenance workers urged to take industrial action

BY NICK GARNETT, LABOUR STAFF

MAINTENANCE workers at flour processing mills supplying the bulk of flour for the UK's bread production are being advised by their principal union to begin industrial action over pay.

If the craftsmen accept the advice and the employers refuse to improve their 15 per cent offer, flour production could be severely affected within days of action starting.

The executive of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers yesterday formally rejected the offer made by the Incorporated National Asociation of British and Irish Millers to the 800 craftsmen employed by the association companies.

The rejection was made in spite of acceptance of the same offer by the industry's 5,000 process and transport workers. Mills in the association supply the flour for bread-making at the two big plant bakers—Ranks Hovis McDougall and Associated British Foods' Allied Bakeries—as well as that for many small bakeries and for cake and pet food manufacturing.

Mr. Gavin Laird, AUEW executive member said that the other craft unions had also rejected the 15 per cent. His union would be consulting with its 500 craftsmen in the industry to confirm their support of the rejection.

If they did confirm the rejection, the union would make a final attempt to improve the offer before industrial action started.

Mr. Laird said he believed the rejection would be confirmed by the craftsmen and that there would be no alternative to an all out strike. The consultation process would take about two weeks but the action would have an impact within a few days of starting.

The association said industrial action by craftsmen would not affect plants in a uniform way. In some mills it would have no impact.

National officials representing process workers had declined to accept the 15 per cent offer but had subsequently seen their members accept it. The employers appeared to hope yesterday that this would happen with the craftsmen.

The employers lifted the original offer from 12.4 per cent on basic rates to 15 per cent. In return for this increase, however, they withdrew an earlier element of the offer improving holiday pay.

The withdrawal of this element—which would have linked holiday pay to average earnings—was an important reason for yesterday's rejection of the offer.

Unemployment rises by 41% as all areas suffer

BY DAVID MARSH

THE RISE in unemployment during the past 12 months has been spread well across the regions. Areas such as the Midlands and Humberside, with heavy concentrations of manufacturing industry, have suffered most.

But the South-East and East Anglia—traditionally areas where unemployment has been well below the national average—have also registered sharp increases in jobless totals.

Department of Employment figures published yesterday show that adult unemployment, excluding school leavers, has risen by 59 per cent during the past 12 months in the West Midlands and 57 per cent in the East Midlands.

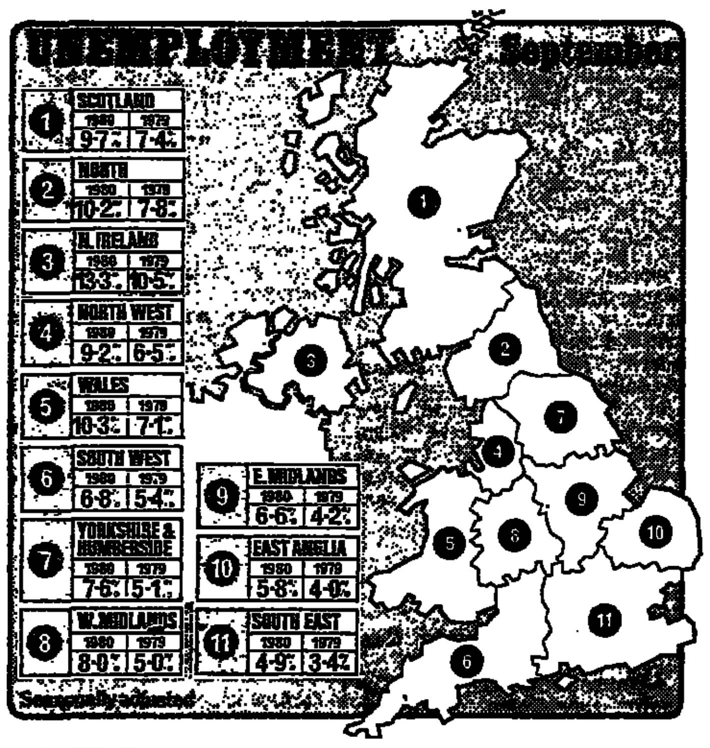
The rise in Yorkshire and Humberside has been 49 per cent. This compares with the total increase in UK unemployment since last September of 41 per cent.

The South-East and East Anglia have also registered above-average increases in unemployment—of around 44 per cent—during this period.

However, unemployment in these two regions as a percentage of the working population is still some way below the present national average of 7.4 per cent.

Areas where the unemployment rate is worse than average have registered somewhat lower increases in jobless totals durng the past 12 months.

In the North West and Scotland, where 9 to 10 per cent are unemployed, the increases have been 42 and 31 per cent respectively.



	Region	1980	1979
1	SCOTLAND	9·7%	7·4%
2	NORTH	10·2%	7·8%
3	N. IRELAND	13·3%	10·5%
4	NORTH WEST	9·2%	6·5%
5	WALES	10·3%	7·1%
6	SOUTH WEST	6·8%	5·4%
7	YORKSHIRE & HUMBERSIDE	7·6%	5·1%
8	W. MIDLANDS	8·0%	5·0%
9	E. MIDLANDS	6·6%	4·2%
10	EAST ANGLIA	5·8%	4·0%
11	SOUTH EAST	4·9%	3·4%

TUC to hear Grain grievances today

BY JOHN LLOYD, LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

TWO OF Britain's largest unions—the 1.2m strong Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and the 420,00-strong Electrical and Plumbing Trades Union—will face today's meeting of the TUC general council with a strong and unrepentant case for having flouted its advice on the Isle of Grain power station construction site over the past three months.

Both unions could face suspension, and ultimately dismissal, from the TUC if their position remains unchanged, or if the TUC continues to insist on observance of its advice.

The TUC confirmed yesterday that it had received a request from the General and Municipal Workers' Union to invoke the disputes procedure over allaged "poaching" of GMWU members who work as insulation engineers, or laggers, at the Milford Haven oil terminal and cracking unit construction sites by the AUEW and the EPTU.

Contractors at the Milford Haven site have ignored the traditional practice of reserving lagging work for the GMWU, and have insisted that all workers conform to common wage and bonus rates.

The GMWU, whose lagger members have been replaced by other unions at Grain, fears that the AUEW and the EPTU are determined to break its monopoly of lagging on large sites.

The TUC had advised those unions with members doing lagging work at Grain to withdraw them in favour of GMUW laggers. This the AUEW and the EPTU have refused to do.

The council will also consider the separate issue of the vote by the selection committee last week to dismiss Mr. Frank Chapple, the EPTU general secretary, from the TUC's powerful finance and general purposes committee.

Technology deal near at Thames

By Pauline Clark, Labour Staff

THAMES TELEVISION, one of the biggest independent TV companies, is expected shortly to reach agreement with unions on the introduction of new technology on its news programmes.

The move towards using electronic news gathering (ENG) in current affairs programmes will be significant for the company following the recent agreement reached on new technology at Independent Television News.

The system uses a lightweight video camera and sound pack for direct transmissions of news events, eliminating the need for film processing and large film crews.

London Weekend Television has recently concluded a deal on ENG with the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians. But the prospective agreement at Thames is seen as a further important breakthrough for British television because the company is more news-oriented than LWT.

A deal on ENG is of special importance to Thames because its present 10-man film crewing arrangements are among the highest in the industry.

Negotiations with ACTT, whose members include the technicians and film editors most directly affected by the new technology, are believed to centre primarily on new manning arrangements.

Ideally, the company would like to see news gathering crews reduced to three or four man-units but this would be alongside an increase in the number of units to service its three daily news programmes. Staff would therefore not be made redundant, but would need retraining.

The company is anxious to reach agreement soon so that ENG can be used by news crews sent abroad for tis winter current affairs programme, TV Eye.

Campaign of resistance threat by Gormley

BY NICK GARNETT, LABOUR STAFF

The National Union of Mineworkers warns the Government today that it will not stand by and allow its policies to continue.

In a special edition of the union's paper issued this morning, a long commentary under the names of Mr. Joe Gormley, the union's president, together with the vice-president and secretary, says the miners "cannot and will not stand aside as the Tories de-industrialise the nation—whatever the outcome of this year's wages negotiations.

The last meeting of the union's national executive committee decided unanimously to mount a campaign against Government policies towards the coal industry and this commentary appears to be its first shot across the Government's bows.

"The British working man and woman and their families are under violent attack from this Tory Government," Mr. Gormley says. "The miners know that they are under attack as well, despite the silent voices."

The "extremists" now in power had interpreted their mandate as "one to ruin Great Britain." The Government, through the Coal Industry Act, had knitted a financial corset that would soon strangle the coal industry "if we don't fight."

Labour's uncertain mood

JOHN LLOYD assesses the chances of success at the Labour Party conference for the three proposed constitutional changes. They are: ● The mandatory reselection of MPs. ● The election of the leader by party conferences. ● The drafting of the manifesto by the National Executive Committee.

A BASIC fact of Labour Party conferences is that decisions are determined by the trade unions whose block votes command some 90 per cent of the voting strength present.

This has been emphasised in recent weeks by speculation on the way the unions will cast their votes on the three constitutional changes proposed by Labour's Left. A survey of the major unions in this pre-conference week shows that, while some have made their position clear, enough uncertainty surrounds others to make a decisive result difficult to predict.

The issue is complicated by the tentative emergence of a compromise position between the two extremes of voting for the three changes, or voting against them. That compromise relies upon the mechanism of the electoral college, about which there are a variety of views.

The party's NEC will propose to the conference that the principle of the electoral college be accepted, and then is likely—although not certain—to propose three different forms of college, in the form of amendments. One, to which a number of NEC members are committed, is known as the 50/50—with 50 per cent trade union representation and 50 per cent made up of constituency party representatives, parliamentary Labour Party people and representatives of prospective candidates.

The other major proposal is the ⅓/⅓/⅓ solution—one-third trade union, one-third constituency and one-third PLP representations. The final alternative (probably) is to have the conference as constituted at present, become the electoral college. Few think this will attract much support, and it may never be put as a motion.

The Transport and General Workers Union, which affiliates 1.25m members to the Labour Party, last week modified its previous position of support for all three changes to one of backing for an electoral college on the ⅓/⅓/⅓ model. This college would have the final say on the manifesto, and on the choice of party leader. On the issue of mandatory reselection, the union's view remains the same: it wants it in.

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' engineering section (876,000 affiliates) has made the most celebrated volte face since last year. Its delegation is strictly mandated to vote against all three changes.

The General and Municipal Workers Union (650,000 affiliates) is in favour of change, although does not much like any of the alternatives on offer.

It did propose, in its evidence to the party's commission of inquiry, that an electoral college be set up, but it saw the college as a body which merely ratified the choice of leader. The wider powers in the NEC's alternatives and those backed by the TGWU do not appeal to it: and it is probably, at this stage, that the union will vote against any change.

From the big three, then, it seems that those who wish to see change voted down can gain some comfort: the likely outturn of their voting shows a 200,000 vote majority for things as they are. That lead, however, is not so large that other unions voting heavily one way or the other may not upset it.

Among the medium-sized unions, there is still some uncertainty. The Shopworkers' Union ,(around 430,000) and the Electrical and Plumbing Trades Union (280,000) and the National Union of Railwaymen (180,000) will vote solidly against changes—but the National Union of Public Employees (500,000) is likely to go for them, although a final decision awaits the delegations meeting this weekend.

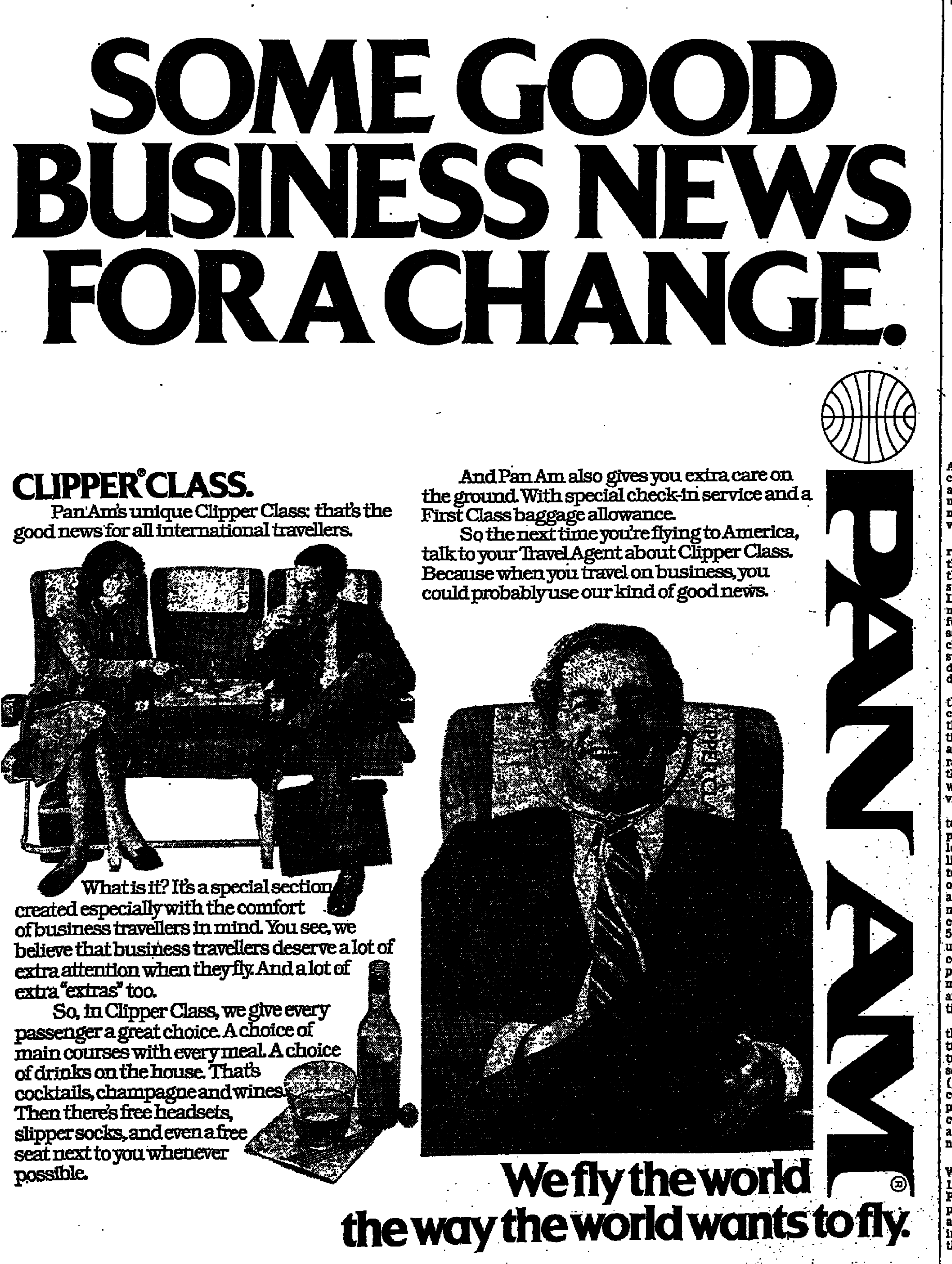
The National Union of Mineworkers (about 250,000 will similarly not be committed until its delegation meets this weekend—but it is likely to produce, as last year, a mixed result. It will support mandatory reselection of MPs, but will probably continue to vote against change on leadership elections and the manifesto.

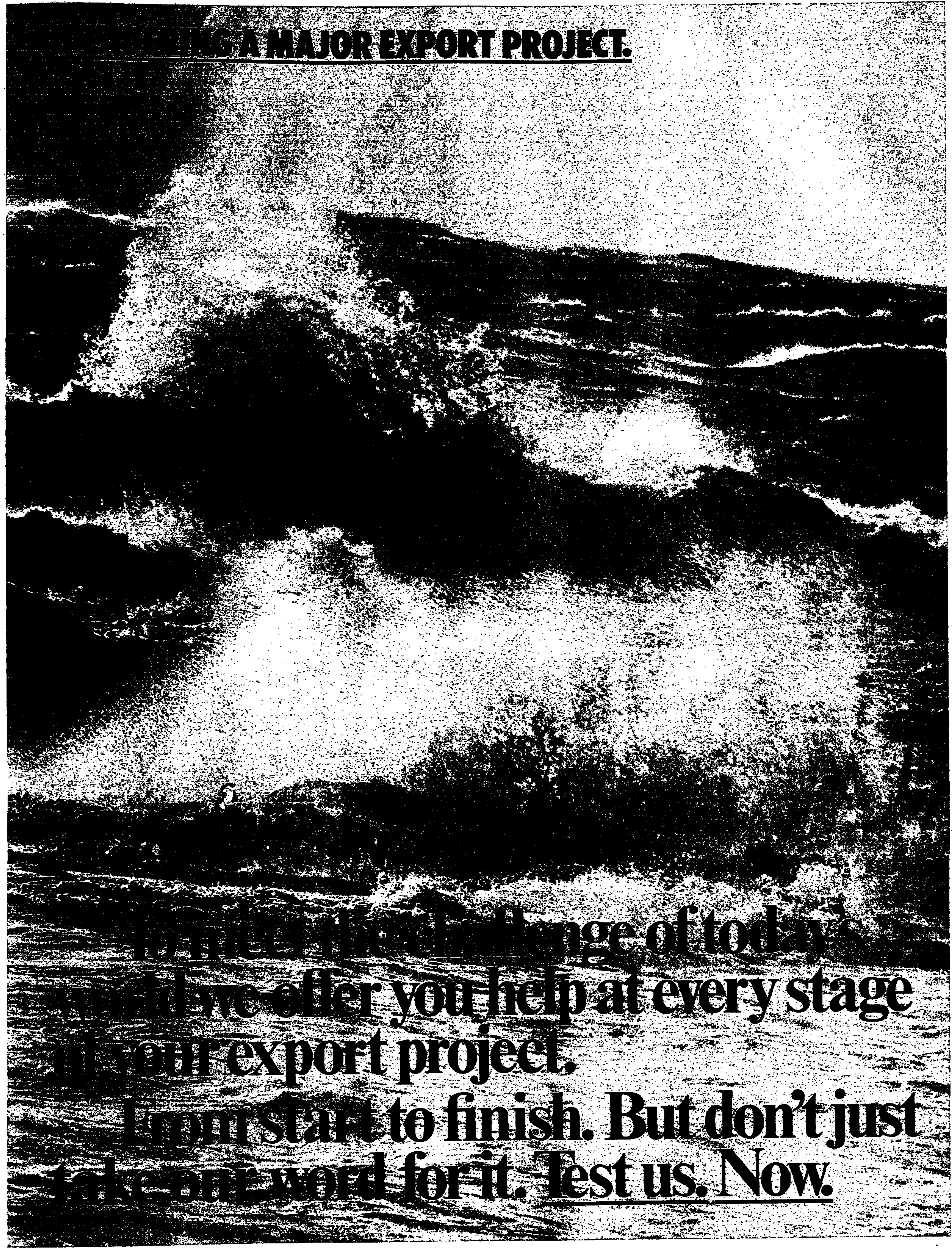
The Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians took a decision at its biennial conference earlier this year to support all three changes—though, in the past there has been some disjunction between UCATT conference decisions and the delegation's voting patterns. That is not expected to occur this year, and it is likely to be counted on the side of the Left.

The Union of Communications Workers (187,000) meets tomorrow to decide its voting behaviour. It would be surprising if that decision were other than a vote against change.

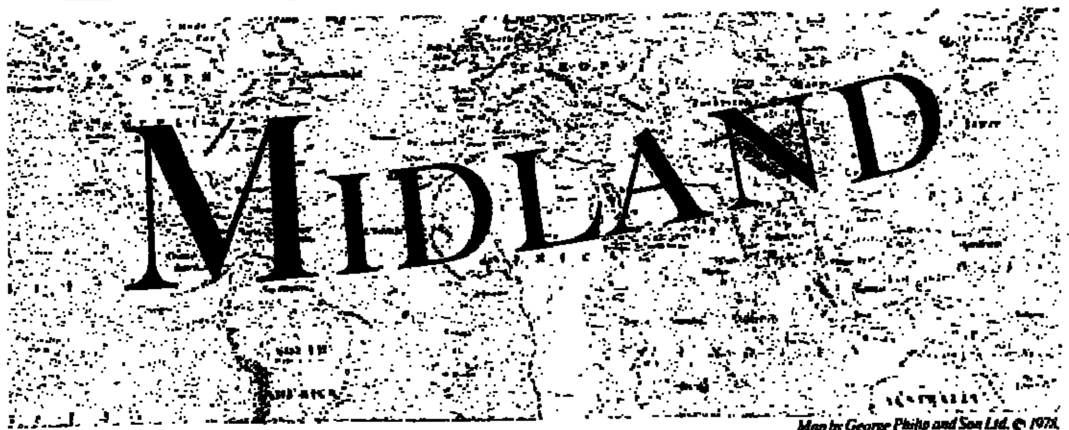
The Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (about 147,000), poses the largest puzzle of all. It is for change—it supports mandatory reselection of MPs and will do so again—but it is not yet clear how it will move on the other two issues. The union has long favoured an electoral college, but how that is to be composed, and how wide its powers will be, is still a matter to be decided.

Provisional arithmetic adds up to around 2.7m votes for change, assuming that around 80 per cent of the constituency Labour parties vote that way too. It is some 700,000 votes short, which means that the GMWU must shift if the reformers are to win. Mr. Basnett will be the object of some reforming blandishment this week.





We deliver.



Map by George Philip and Son Ltd. © 1978.

Test us.

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UK NEWS

Renaissance for printed circuit industry

Alan Cane reports on a survey done by Systec Consultants

THE BRITISH printed circuit board industry, in the doldrums since the mid-1970s, is going through a renaissance.

Sales last year topped £201m and are growing at 20 per cent a year. According to a new survey of the industry,* sales should reach £477m in 1983.

The survey warns, however, of increasing competition from the U.S. and the Far East, aided by a tariff structure which means some Far East manufacturers pay no import duty, and others have a competitive advantage over UK producers.

The survey, carried out by Systec Consultants for the Electronic Components Industry Federation, makes four chief recommendations.

- The development of a quality standard or code of practice similar to British Standard 9000, but designed for general industry use, rather than high reliability applications.
- Tariff structure should be changed to encourage manufacture in the UK.
- Companies buying printed circuit boards (PCBs) should collaborate with their supplies at an early stage to facilitate better delivery planning and larger orders.
- A common standard for the artwork data produced by computer-aided design systems.

Printed circuit boards, flat plates of epoxy glass or card are the staple diet of the electronics industry.

Drilled through to take electronic components and printed with fine metallic lines to carry signals from one component to another, they attract none of the glamour associated with micro-chips but are just as essential to a healthy national electronics industry.

Over the past few years, a series of reports has cast doubt on the health of the British PCB industry.

But according to Systec, faced with these problems, many UK PCB suppliers started making significant investments in new plant around 1977, improving production capacity, quality and price.

Imports at £21m now represent only a little over 10 per cent of the overall market, most of which the report attributes to IBM.

That company refused to give any information which would help the estimation of the import figure, but by roundabout methods Systec reckons IBM imports about £14m of PCBs a year.

Systec estimates the value of exports from the UK at only £9.7m.

The biggest single market for PCB in the UK is the telecommunications industry, of which about 60 per cent of requirements come from the Post Office.

Defence projects come a close second and Systec notes: "All these defence projects have a major electronic content and are likely to require a significant amount of multilayer, flexible, flexirigid and other high technology printed circuits. We expect this sector to grow fastest in terms of PCB value."

The technology used to create printed circuit boards does not compare with the sophisticated high precision methods used in microchip manufacture, but there are degrees of complexity in PCB types.

The simplest is a card printed on one side only, and with component holes punched rather than drilled (many small jobbing companies produce these boards).

Greatest growth, 40-60 per cent a year is presently seen in markets for flexible boards printed on a mylar base, which find application in flexible connectors for motor cars and special connexions in military equipment, and in the highly sophisticated multilayer boards which are expected to account for 20 per cent of the business by value in 1983.

Multilayer boards are effectively solid state wiring—microchips writ large. Thin boards are bonded together to form a sandwich with all the board interconnections and power lines buried deep within the layers.

The UK's biggest producer of multilayer boards is International Computers, which has a high reputation in the production of boards up to 22 layers thick. Its subsidiary ICL Logiclayer plans to turnover £5m by 1982.

The motor industry represents an area of enormous potential for the PCB industry. There are suggestions that within two years, cars coming off the production line will be fitted with up to ten PCBs to mount components for lights, windscreen wipers, fuse holders and the more elaborate microprocessor based diagnostic equipment.

The survey says: "If UK production remains in the order of 1.5 vehicles a year this represents about 22 per cent of total PCB consumption in the UK."

But it warns it may be eight to ten years before that level is reached, a compound annual growth of about 11 per cent.

The survey highlights the deleterious effects of tariff structures on the UK industry. Components attract duty of 17 per cent while PCBs attract 9.5 per cent and assembled boards 5.8 per cent. It is possible to avoid duty altogether by importing from the Third World and taking advantage of duty free quotas.

Manufacturers can therefore make significant savings by buying abroad, assembling and importing. The survey says: "We have evidence the effect of differential tariffs levels is to encourage larger electronics companies to manufacture overseas even if manufacturing and components costs are no cheaper.

"This represents a potential loss of employment in the UK as well as potential loss of business to the PCB industry.

"It means that a UK manufacturing company may be at a competitive disadvantage relative to a U.S. or Japanese company making the same equipment, even in the UK."

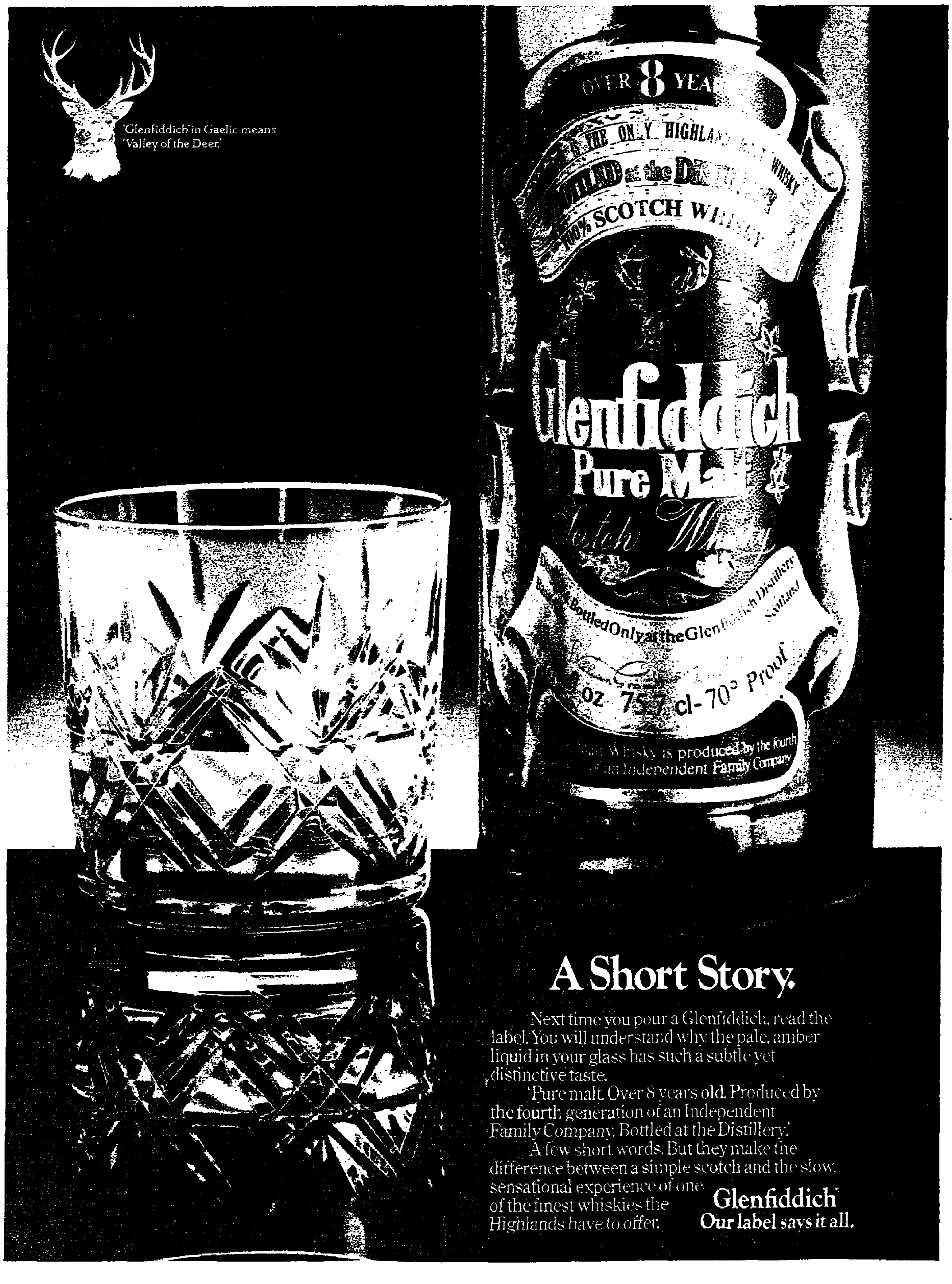
The United Kingdom Printed Circuit Board Industry. Systec Consultants, Farnborough, Hampshire. £250.

MARKET GROWTH BY BOARD TYPE (VALUE)

	1979		1980*		1983*	
	Actual %	Adjusted %	Actual %	Adjusted %	Compared with 1980 %	Equivalent compound annual rate %
Paper-based	27	15.5	41	21	37	11
Epoxy glass	24	12.5	30	10	Nil	Nil
Plated through hole	31	19.5	41	21	86	23
Multilayer	40	28.5	50	30	106	27
Flexibles	64	52.5	90	70	63	18
Total market	31	19.5	40	20	67	19

* Forecast

Source: Systec



APPOINTMENTS

City money market post at Bank of New South Wales

Mr. Reginald Barham has been appointed by the BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES to the new post of chief manager, foreign exchange and money markets, at its London headquarters. He will be in charge of the development and expansion of the bank's world wide foreign exchange dealings and Euro deposit market activities. Mr. Barham takes up his new appointment on January 1, 1981, after retiring from his present position as vice president and assistant general manager of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company at the end of this year, where he has headed the foreign exchange and money market operations in London for the past 18 years.

The Bank of New South Wales also states that its agency in New York is to be raised in status to a federal branch. Recently, the San Francisco representative office was upgraded to an agency.

★

Mr. Clive J. V. Denning, managing director of Wellman Alloys, has been appointed group engineering co-ordinator for the parent company, the WELLMAN ENGINEERING CORPORATION. **Mr. Richard F. Pearson**, a director of Wellman Alloys, has become general manager of that concern and continues as company secretary. **Mr. Terry Thomas** has been made company accountant of Wellman Alloys.

★

Mr. George R. Brown, formerly chairman of Brown and Root Inc., has been elected an honorary director of TEXASGULF INC.

★

Mr. K. S. Aisford and **Mr. T. J. Rae** have been appointed directors of ALEXANDER HOWDEN INSURANCE BROKERS.

★

Mr. R. A. N. Henley has been appointed chief manager of MIDLAND BANK's branch to be opened in Hong Kong at the end of the year. He also becomes managing director of Midland Finance (H.K.), a newly-formed deposit-taking company, operating alongside the present representative office.

Mr. David Collis

Mr. David Collis has been appointed chief manager of the Access Department of NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK. He was formerly chief advances manager of the Bank's International Banking Division, and succeeds **Mr. Geoffrey Burdett**, recently appointed head of public affairs, National Westminster Bank Group.

★

The UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM has appointed **Dr. J. Malcolm Harrington** to be its first Professor of Occupational Health from January 1, 1981. Dr. Harrington is at present senior lecturer in occupational medicine in the TUC Centenary Institute of Occupational Health, a part of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He is also adviser to Whitbreads on occupational medicine and a member of the Board of Milton Keynes Occupational Health Service, which provides a service for small industries.

★

Mr. David Hope has been appointed a director and general manager of WELDING UNITS (UK), a member of the Robert Smith Group.

★

The Queen has approved the appointment of the **Earl of Avon** as a Lord in Waiting in succession to the **Lord Mowbray and Stourton**. In addition to being a Government Whip in the House of Lords, Lord Avon will also act as a spokesman on the arts and on environment and transport matters.

★

Mr. Barry W. V. Bovey has become chairman of the COUNCIL OF BRITISH MANUFACTURERS OF PETROLEUM EQUIPMENT on the retirement of **Mr. J. E. Williams**. Mr. Bovey has been honorary treasurer for eight years and is managing director of Orbit Valve.

★

Mr. A. Macarthur has been appointed director of operations of MITEL TELCOM, of Slough. He has been with the company for several years and was most recently managing director of manufacturing in Shannon, Ireland.

★

At the World Congress of Anaesthesiologists held in Hamburg, five British anaesthetists were elected as key officers of the medical speciality's World Federation. The posts are each held for four years.

Dr. John Zorab becomes secretary general of the WORLD FEDERATION OF SOCIETIES OF ANAESTHESIOLOGY; **Dr. Peter Baskett**, resuscitation committee secretary; **Professor Michael Vickers**, chairman of the education committee; **Dr. Michael Rosen**, chairman of the committee of obstetric anaesthetics; and **Dr. Douglas Howat**, vice-president.

The World Congress in Hamburg took place immediately after the annual meeting in London of the ASSOCIATION OF ANAESTHETISTS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND at which **Dr. Derek Wylie** was elected president to succeed **Dr. Stanley Mason**.

★

Mr. Carlo de Benedetti is to join the international council of AMAX INC.

Sir Alex Smith

Sir Alex Smith, who is director of Manchester Polytechnic, has joined the Board of THERM-A-STOR, double glazing manufacturer of Perivale, Middlesex. Sir Alex was head of advanced research at Rolls-Royce Limited prior to his appointment in 1969 at Manchester Polytechnic.

Therm-A-Stor specialises in tempered safety glass applications in double glazing, and is at present campaigning for Government legislation to reduce glass accidents in the home. Sir Alex attended an all-party briefing for MPs concerned with the number of domestic glass accidents shortly before a recent adjournment debate on the subject initiated by Mr. Michael Morris, Conservative MP for Northampton South.

★

Mr. David Jenkins has been appointed commercial director, **Mr. Alan Grimadell**, commercial secretary, and **Mr. Bryn Hackland**, financial controller of DAC, which recently changed its name from Derby Automation Consultants. The parent concern is BICC.

★

Mr. Richard Ellis has been appointed finance director of BISON CONCRETE. He was formerly financial controller of Tunnel Cement.

★

Mr. L. Wayne Oliver, vice-president and director, marketing and business development for ITT CANNON ELECTRIC—NORTH AMERICA, has been elected president of that division of International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation. He will replace **Mr. James H. Anderson**, who has been promoted to assistant group general manager. **Mr. Robert J. Trivison** has been appointed senior vice-president and director of operations at ITT Cannon.

★

Mr. Bruce L. Crockett has been elected vice-president of finance and treasurer of COMSAT GENERAL CORPORATION, a subsidiary of Communications Satellite Corporation.

★

Mr. Walter A. Marlowe, assistant vice-president of the BANKERS TRUST COMPANY, has been appointed representative in Amsterdam in charge of the bank's international department business in the Netherlands. He succeeds **Mr. Alexander P. McKown**, vice-president, who is to become head of the bank's world corporate department in the Netherlands, based in the Amsterdam office.

Mr. John Barclay

Mr. John A. Barclay is to become manager of the London, Lombard Street Office of the ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND from October 1. Mr. Barclay has been in that office since the beginning of July, when he was appointed joint manager.

★

UNITED GLASS CONTAINERS has appointed **Mr. Peter F. Palmer** as national industry sales manager, to head a newly-organised sales department which integrates the company's activities in the food, pharmaceutical, toiletry and household products industries. **Mr. Derek Parr** is taking up the new senior position as UGC's national manager, customer services.

FINANCIAL TIMES SURVEY
Wednesday September 24 1980

International Construction

Construction is suffering as much as any industry from the world recession. For the leading groups in most countries the weakness of their home market is forcing them to seek export business opportunities in, so far, relatively untapped markets.

CONTENTS

Scramble to find new orders

By Michael Cassell

THERE ARE no easy options for contractors presently seeking work in international construction markets. World economic problems and political factors continue to stifle output in an industry which has previously often managed to protect itself from the full impact of world recession by locating and then thriving on regional pockets of high activity.

This time round, however, there have been few such places and international civil engineering contractors and builders have rarely been able to claim that business has not been hit.

When the Middle East construction markets—at the centre of the international construction industry's attention for most of the 1970s—began to show the inevitable signs of retrenchment, there was much talk of "moving on to the next boom market."

The problem was that few contractors had any idea of where the next "boom market" was going to be and what might have seemed like sound strategy amounted to little more than wishful thinking. In the event, no region has emerged to fill the gap left by the spending reductions introduced among the Arab oil States.

Today the international construction market is geared for high volumes of work which, for the time being at least, simply do not exist. Over the past decade contractors have substantially raised their dependence on overseas work and the worldwide downturn has left many of them with a sizeable dilemma.

The fall in workload has heightened competition for contracts to levels almost unheard of previously. The pressures have been intensified by the presence of a new generation of contractors, principally from the Far East, who have come to use their *construction skills as a major* foreign-earnings instrument and who have no intention of relaxing their grip.

A decade of modernisation in many of the developing nations has also established, with varying degrees of effectiveness, a new batch of indigenous contracting industries which have benefited from foreign participation and which now find themselves increasingly capable of taking on the type of work which a few years ago would have been beyond their resources. Having learned from overseas contractors, they are now taking them on at their own game.

While accusations of "unfair advantage" are pointed at some of the newcomers to the international contracting scene, the objects of such scorn have pressed on and pushed deep into territory traditionally regarded as the preserve of the big European and American contractors.

Low labour rates, army-style organisation and total government support have combined to help such contracting organisations grab a startling share of the construction cake in several major markets, although there are signs that they have been falling from favour in some countries.

Determining

State support, in all its forms, has become increasingly important in determining which international contracting forces fare well in the fight for business. Long-standing complaints that British civil engineers, for example, receive little useful back-up from government have recently been renewed amid fears that cuts in the UK foreign aid programme will further damage their chances of winning work overseas.

Financial aid can represent an almost compulsory prerequisite for contract success and with the UK alone of industrialised countries expecting a substantial drop in the proportion of Gross National Product diverted to foreign aid, the outlook for British contractors seems less hopeful than in the recent past.

Despite repeated official recognition that co-ordination and support at the highest levels can be instrumental in winning international contracting business, there remain grounds for criticising the nature of the British effort. Attempts to secure contracts invariably remain fragmented and fail to display the all embracing approach adopted by some other nations and which involves the banks, contractors, government and manufacturing industry.

Perhaps the military tendency displayed by some contracting countries represents an extreme and unacceptable approach but there is no doubt that some of the UK's more comparable competitors have formulated a philosophy within which integrated effort seems to work well.

In France, for example, the largest main civil engineering contractors—owned by groups of banks—are organised in one group which bids overseas and which then apportions work. In the U.S. the U.S. Corps of Engineers secures overseas business which is handed on to designers, contractors and manufacturers. In West Germany the use of aid packages is employed far more directly in efforts to obtain work, while consultancies in Holland seek work through a central representative agency which tenders for schemes and then allocates contracts.

Momentum

Perhaps none of these approaches comfortably fits the UK style of operation and it must be said that past contracting successes have limited the need for criticism. But with clear indications that some of the momentum is running out of the British effort, fresh initiatives rather than stale tactics might become increasingly necessary.

One bright spot in terms of the UK overseas construction effort has been the major contribution made by the country's consultants in the shape of invisible earnings. For the past *few years, the consultants'* earnings have managed to outstrip those of the contractors but now even here the outlook appears less promising.

The consulting engineers have been warning that their ability to maintain their recent record of overseas earnings is being seriously threatened by the steady erosion of a domestic workload which forms the base for all other operations.

The domestic downturn comes at a time when the consultants also face growing difficulties in picking up foreign jobs, together with the familiar problem posed by the rising value of sterling and the growing use of locally-based consultancy operations.

It would, however, be misleading to suggest that the international contracting business is flat on its back. While the scale of development activity in the Middle East, for example, has been reducing, the volume of work being done or proposed only compares badly when set against the extraordinary and unrepeatable levels of output sanctioned throughout much of the last decade.

The value of contracts planned throughout the Arab world remains huge and as many nations enter the next natural phase of development, centred around industrialisation plans which range from the modest to the immense, spending looks set to remain high.

There are also hopes that those contractors, consultants and material suppliers which upheld the highest standards, in terms of business integrity and quality, are the ones which will *stand to benefit most in the next* decade. Many Arab States have been severely chastened by their experiences in the role of contracting clients and have perhaps appreciated that performance and the right results are ultimately as important as price.

Reduction

In some Arab countries, however, there is a limit to just how many major civil engineering schemes can be justified and the completion of multi-million pound projects can mean a sharp and permanent reduction in the level of large-scale contract opportunities.

Contractors are then faced with the prospect of trying to move on to those markets where contracts are big enough to fill the void left by job completions elsewhere or of lowering their horizons in terms of the size of projects they take on. Another alternative involves greater participation in the type of work which follows on from infrastructure civil engineering, such as the design and installation of process and manufacturing plant.

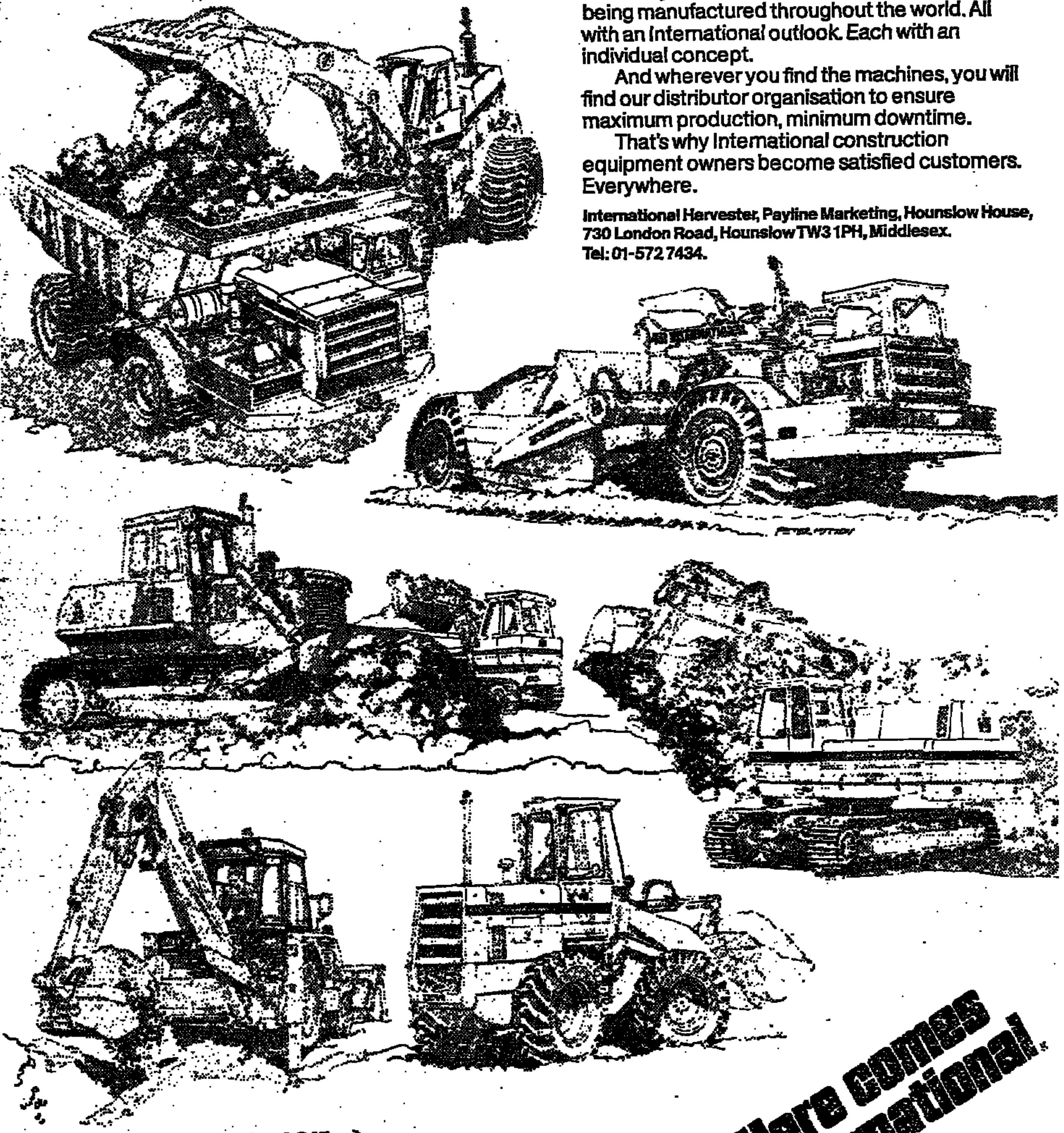
As for the natural successors to the Middle East markets, there are no obvious alternatives. The potential of nations like Brazil, for example, is undisputed but legislation involving such fundamental matters as taxation and importing activities will pose a challenge to a contractor wishing to tackle a market which in any case is well served by its local industry.

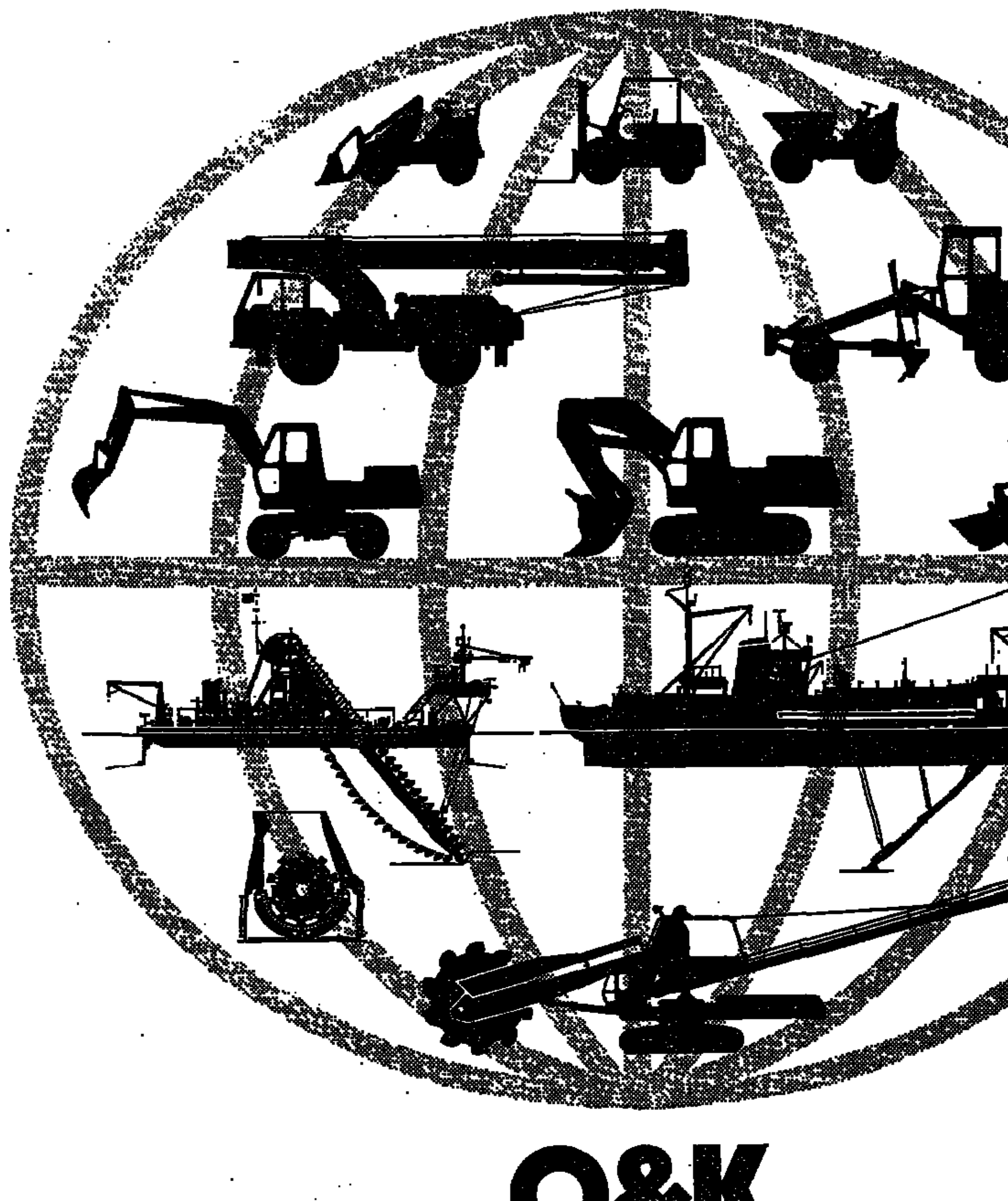
China is another popular alternative in any assessment of world contracting markets and again the potential must be regarded as enormous. China proposes massive capital expenditure programmes aimed at pushing itself into the modern industrialised world, although there seems no question of progress being characterised by some of the wild spending seen in the early stages of the Arab world's modernisation plans.

There will be substantial contracting opportunities and the West Germans, Japanese and British are among those nations already establishing for themselves a commercial foothold in a market which will be heavily dependent on imported Western technology and equipment.

There is unlikely to be any "crash" development strategy, however, and China's ambitions have already received a setback with the recent announcement of a large and unplanned budget deficit and resulting reductions in public spending which will inevitably hit hopeful contractors.

Other Far Eastern markets could also become increasingly important for European and American contractors, with members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) providing a thriving if highly competitive market place.





Fresh initiative by UK contractors

IN THE face of a continuing decline in overseas construction orders, a new drive is on the way to step up the volume of contracts won by UK contractors.

Having come to some rather unpalatable conclusions about prospects for the British overseas construction effort in the medium term, the civil engineering economic development committee at the National Economic Development office is to put its weight behind a fresh initiative in a bid to rectify what it sees as a steadily deteriorating situation.

The plan is to establish a secretariat which will identify overseas contract opportunities and advise on how competitiveness can be improved. It is being suggested that the new operations will be headed by Sir Alfred Lamb, currently Britain's Ambassador in Norway, who is due to return to the UK at the end of this year.

The proposals may sound strangely familiar to those in the construction sector who have been around for a few years and who have witnessed previous attempts to establish an industry with the type of co-ordinated central strategy that appears to have provided the springboard for success among some other world competitors.

Initiatives of this type have come and gone on a fairly regular basis, involving export supremos and the establishment of market intelligence networks which have all been designed to supplement the resources of the individual contractors and material suppliers.

To be fair, the performance of UK contractors overseas can hardly be classed as low. Such has been the extent and consistency of their foreign activities, however, that an apparent stumble in progress is tending to diminish their commendable track record.

Until the year to April 1979 Britain's contractors had seen six years of uninterrupted overseas growth. Then came the break with the value of new contracts falling to about £1.3bn against £1.6bn in the previous 12 months. Official figures on the year to April last are due shortly and are expected to show that, while work in progress remains at high levels, new contracts have continued to slide.

The reduced inflow is not of course the fault of any lack of effort or enthusiasm on the part of the British but more the result of increased world competition, protectionism and political instability in some major markets. The fact remains, however, that contractors will have to work harder to stand still and that includes the British contingent.

The ultimate value of a fresh and centrally organised initiative may be doubtful but there is at least a case for suggesting that some of the past efforts have not been entirely in vain, with UK participation in construction work abroad providing an impressive catalogue of contract successes.

Standards

The British civil engineering industry is well regarded for its long experience and highly developed technical and professional standards. At the risk of sounding trite, the industry has generally attempted to pursue—and succeeded in pursuing and maintaining—a level of business ethics not always readily associated with the industry in which it operates.

There has been recurring criticism that its insistence on following the rules has cost it dearly and British consultants in particular have been accused of going out of their way not to recommend perfectly capable UK contractors and suppliers simply in order to demonstrate their jealously guarded impartiality.

While the British have stuck to the rule book—so the theory goes—the rest of the world has piled in and picked up work from under their noses.

There may well be some truth in such an observation, though it is often hard to reconcile such a belief with the effort and enthusiasm which the contractors put into winning any contract, large or small. Their activities, with varying degrees of commitment and expertise, have been helped by an international diplomatic network which now generally regards its commercial role as at least as important as its political function.

The extent to which the commercial departments of UK embassies scattered around the world can help contractors in seeking and securing work is limited by available manpower and financial resources, but a very mixed pattern of response is reported by the companies themselves. While some tell stories of diplomats not even conversant with companies considered to be household names in the UK, othehs are happy to recount circumstances in which quick reaction or accurate guidance on the part of diplomatic commercial staff have directly resulted in contract success.

But there is no escaping the conclusion that as a rule the average UK civil engineering and building contracting operation prides itself on its dependence, believes itself capable of seeking and winning work unaided by outside agencies (or traditional competitors) and sees little benefit in commercial co-operation within its own ranks.

There are examples enough of joint venture co-operation to illustrate that UK contractors will involve themselves in an integrated approach to winning work, although it is hard to escape the conclusion that this formula usually remains a last resort rather than a natural option.

It is understandable that any contractors should want to avoid having to share profits on a scheme when he can have them all for himself, but how many contracts have in the past been lost altogether to competitors who have shown themselves ready and happy to take half a cake instead of none? Perhaps with fewer "jumbo" projects around, the need for the joint venture approach will no longer be as acute but just how much impact can a nationally orchestrated campaign have if the individual members prefer to work in isolation?

The contracting industry has reacted in different ways to the changing international scene. While some groups have widened the search for work into new territories, others have been reluctant to cross new frontiers, ever-mindful of the dangers of operating in uncertain surroundings for unpredictable clients.

Fragility

The fragility of their market place has time and again been dramatically exposed. Temporarily ruptured relationships with Saudi Arabia recently sent a few contractors and consultants' hearts racing while legislative confusion in Nigeria—another major UK market—had a similar effect.

A few weeks ago Marchwiel had to announce a £3m dip in profits, brought about by problems on a £11.5m road-building project in the Sudan and its full-year profits could be down to £2m or less against £12.4m in 1979.

The everpresent danger of unforeseen technical problems compound an outlook often clouded by local political instability and it is perhaps understandable—if highly unconventional—that a group like BICC, which owns the Balfour Beatty contracting operation, should insist on knowing the full picture at Higgs and Hill (itself having recently made provisions of £2.5m to cover losses on a Trinidad road contract) by way of an independent investigation of work in progress.

As for new territories, some of the largest contractors are turning their attention to markets which are not new to them but which have not previously ranked in importance alongside regions like the Middle East. These include North America, Mexico, Australia and parts of the Far East.

As an additional alternative, some contractors have been widening their technical capabilities and pushing into areas previously left to others, such as process plant engineering and open-cast coalmining.

The need to push so hard abroad would perhaps not be quite so acute but for the poor condition of the contractors' domestic market, within which civil engineering is being hit hardest of all. Years of difficult market conditions have forced many contracting groups—some reluctantly and others enthusiastically—to look further afield for work, and for most there can be no turning back. Foreign contracts have become an indispensable part of their business and the battle to ensure they maintain their market share can only intensify over the next few years.

Michael Cassell

The foreign worker contingents

SAUDI ARABIA is a classic example of the foreign worker syndrome that has been a prominent feature of today's international construction industry. Flush with booming oil revenues, the Saudis embarked on a massive programme of capital expenditure—but lacked the workers necessary to carry out such construction.

Now, however, it is estimated that out of 5m Saudis, some 1m are in the labour force, while another 1.3m are foreign workers. Some 80,000 of the latter come from the Far East, 300,000 from the Indian sub-continent, 400,000 from the two Yemens (with 180,000 in the Western Province), 350,000 from Egypt, and 50,000 from Europe and the U.S. The remainder comes from assorted countries in the Third World, including other northern Arab States.

But earlier this year Saudi concern at the number of foreign workers in its economy led to the announcement that the proportion of aliens would be cut to about 55 per cent, keeping on those workers with skills, but reducing the unskilled labour force.

Saudi Arabia is not alone among the Gulf States in voicing fears about the large proportion of foreign workers, especially those involved in construction projects. Abu Dhabi has about 40,000 labourers working in the construction industry, while the United Arab Emirates is estimated by some to have 80 per cent of its workforce comprised of foreign workers.

Concern about the high numbers of foreign workers is not only over the social consequences of having such large numbers of people with different religions and social backgrounds but also because the Middle Eastern countries are beginning to realise that cheap imported labour is not the most efficient way of using their resources. Productivity, for example, remains low because labour is so cheap.

Construction companies working in the Middle East are also aware that in the increased competition for contracts, the quality of their workforce is likely to be a critical factor in firstly winning the contract and, then, making it pay.

Labour for the Middle East, however, has been drawn from throughout Azia and from as far away as from Korea. The experience of contractors has resulted in some generalised observations about the quality of workers from various countries. Portuguese and Philippino workers, for example, are said to be very expensive to feed, while workers from Turkey and Pakistan have been regarded as "difficult" to control.

Koreans, on the other hand, have won a reputation for being hard-working and reliable. As a result Korean contractors have been granted contracts worth more than $2bn in the Middle East.

But labour from Korea has virtually dried up as a result of Government intervention. As a result contractors have looked increasingly towards India—with its 40m unemployed—to provide the new source of cheap labour. The Indian Government, however, appears determined not to let its population be exploited and has laid down guidelines for pay and conditions for workers who go abroad.

Guidelines

These guidelines include 30 days' paid leave a year, free medical services, free transportation to and from the construction site, and a guarantee that at least 10 per cent of the workers' earnings are sent back to India.

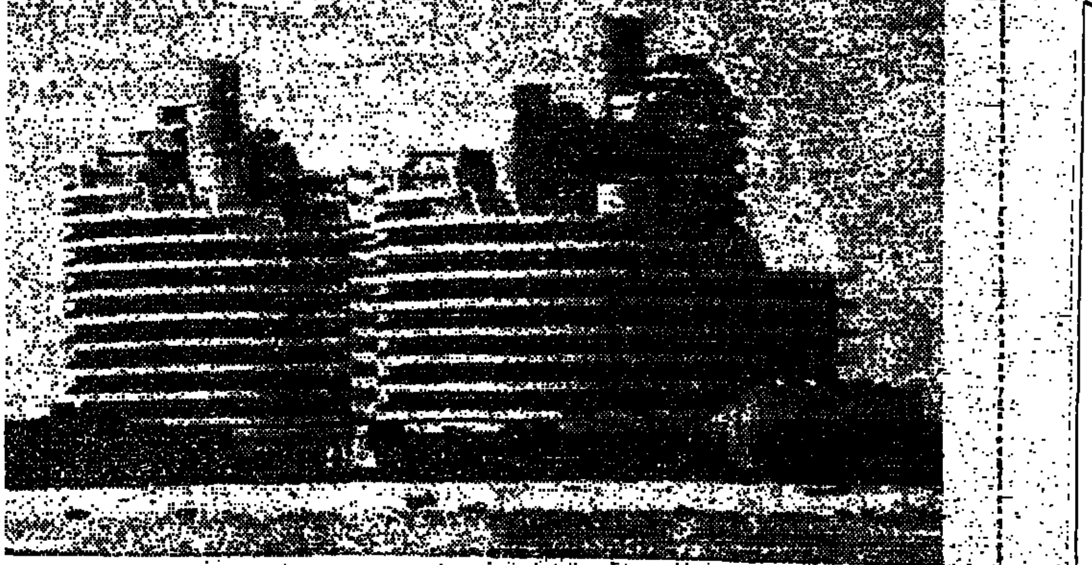
The Indian Government's tough approach is justified by the less than ideal conditions reported to exist in many countries, although these have improved substantially over the past few years. It is doubtful, however, whether similar conditions would be tolerated by Western labourers, despite the fact that Western contractors are usually among the better providers of accommodation and food.

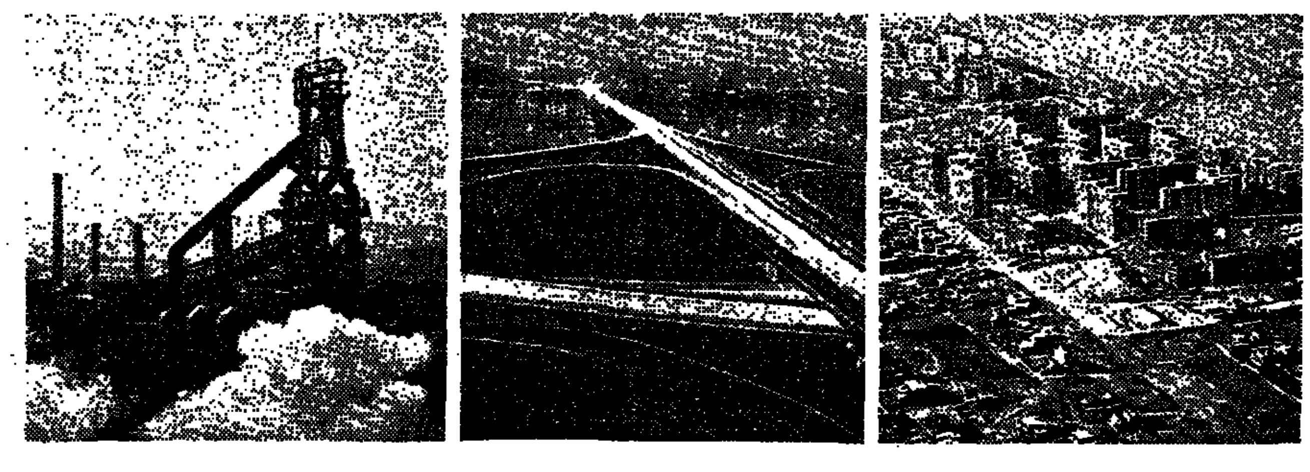
The Indian Government's approach is not without critics in its own country, who argue that it could force contractors to look elsewhere for labour. In fact there are already signs that alternative sources of labour are being tapped—such as Sri Lanka and Bangladesh—but it seems only too likely that these governments will copy the Indian example and ensure some minimum standards for their workers overseas.

The Middle East is also becoming seemingly less attractive for the managerial and skilled Western expatriate. The problems in Iran and growing social discontent in other countries, coupled with social restrictions in certain countries, have tended to make it seem less worthwhile to work in the Middle East. Even the traditionally high salaries have become less attractive when viewed against the high level living costs and sharply rising inflation.

But with the UK construction industry in the doldrums, working abroad does offer the young manager the chance to gain much needed experience at a higher level of responsibility than would be available in the UK.

David Churchill





Next wave of Middle East business

NOT SO long ago, tales of Arabian nights usually involved nightmarish stories of unsuccessful attempts to bargain for a bed in a Middle East hotel which was long on excuses and a bit short on rooms.

There was a certain catchet to be had from regaling colleagues in the local with detailed descriptions of how, at three in the morning, you were told to make room for another guest, despite protests to the effect that you really had no wish to share it with an American oil executive.

Having to leave at 10 minutes notice because some sheikh had decided to grace the hotel with his (and his immense family's) presence was given a similar rating in the long list of Middle East horror stories, born out of the Klondyke-type rush to the region in the early 1970s.

Embarrassing

But today, the tale is a different one. In many places, shortages of hotel beds have been replaced with an embarrassing oversupply. Salesmen who were once forced to divert some of their skills to winning a room may now concentrate their efforts on seeking sales.

The Middle East construction markets have undergone some profound changes in the last six or seven years, both in terms of the volume and the type of work available. Experience has transformed attitudes and made for wiser clients and contractors. In the main, it has also instilled a sense of priorities and orderliness which was damagingly absent in the early days of the oil-fed construction boom.

The Middle East states have followed a predictable pattern of development, though it seems to have come as something of a surprise to those who chose to look no further ahead than the contract immediately in hand. The initial demand was for the type of infrastructure needed as a base for further development and expansion. None of the client-nations had the capability to provide the necessary roads, airports, harbours and irrigation systems, and civil engineers and consultants from abroad were more than ready to oblige.

In retrospect, it was perhaps not surprising that the clients insisted upon a catalogue of guarantees and bonds designed to protect themselves against a commercial army intent upon extracting from them large amounts of their oil wealth. The Arabs, with plenty of ideas and virtually no expertise, were working in a vacuum where trust had to be supplemented by cast-iron security. The result, however, was mind-boggling bureaucracy and a minefield of pre-conditions.

However, many companies managed to overcome the obstacles. By 1977, UK contractors alone had managed to pick up £874m worth of new work in the Middle East. Hardly a major contracting company in the world failed to compete for business, often spending huge sums of risk-capital merely to stand a chance of finding themselves on the final short-list for work.

As competition reached new heights, the inevitable downturn in contracts arrived. As a client, the public sector had been pre-eminent—and, amid growing fears the State budgets had lost both a sense of direction and of proportion, the cuts came in.

The number of multi-million pound infrastructure projects were in any case limited by their very nature. All at once those contractors heavily committed on one or two major schemes found themselves back in the marketplace and facing tough competition for work of far more modest proportions.

Reappraised

That, in essence, is where most of the Middle East construction markets stand today. The first rush to spend is over, budgets have been reappraised and redrawn and—for many states—development has started to move onto another phase.

The biggest misconception is that construction work in the Middle East has dried up. The reality is that large volumes of business exist and can be expected within the region for many years.

Some projections suggest that the major Gulf countries will be increasing construction investment by up to 50 per cent over the next 10 years. Much of the activity will be centred on the provision of technology as opposed to bricks and mortar and, once again, outside expertise will be essential.

Industry, agriculture, water resources and waste and sewerage systems rank high in the new list of development priorities, though it would be wrong to assume that the Arab nations are broadly all on a par in terms of progress. The task of modernisation represents a challenge of varying dimensions from state to state. And while some of the smaller countries have well advanced development programmes, other nations—by virtue of size or population—still have much to do.

Saudi Arabia, for example, remains one of the world's biggest—if not easiest—construction markets. The country is pushing on with a programme designed to create a modern, industrialised society out of desert and is spending well over $200m to that end in its current five-year plan.

While investment in basic infrastructure has been cut to about one third of total spending, against 50 per cent in the last five-year programme, spending on industrial and agricultural construction is set to rise substantially.

The investment plans provide over $7bn to be spent by the Saudi Basic Industries Corporation on the Kingdom's two major industrial centres at Jubail and Yanbu. Given this sort of emphasis, contracting success will clearly become steadily more dependent on expertise in those high-technology fields less closely associated with mainstream civil engineering.

The U.S. contractors, with their long experience in the oil sector and close ties with the Kingdom, continue to dominate the contract lists. However, competition has increased as contractors who previously preferred to concentrate on Arab markets, once regarded as easier to penetrate, have switched some of their attention towards Saudi Arabia.

In terms of "new" markets, the international contractors have recently started to pay close attention to Egypt, one of the few Arab countries with a population big enough to justify a massive construction and civil engineering programme.

Given a semblance of political stability and an apparent readiness to pursue an "open door" policy—in marked contrast to the strategy of the previous political regime—Egypt represents a market with huge potential but strictly limited resources.

The key to success is often tied up with foreign aid. The existing five-year plan envisages expenditure on economic development of around $30bn. Those organisations wanting a share of the construction business will invariably be questioned just as closely about matters other than technical expertise. Contractors who can point to financial back-up in any one of a various forms will have a head-start over the competition.

Strains

There is no shortage of ambitious projects proposed or under way in Egypt. They include the widening and deepening of the Suez Canal, a series of tunnels under Suez (one of which is virtually complete) reconstruction of Ismailia and Port Suez, and the building of new desert cities to relieve the mounting strains placed on Cairo's hopelessly inadequate facilities.

Egypt is getting on with the provision of industrial capacity as it attempts to modernise its most basic amenities. Power generation stations, steel production complexes and vehicle manufacturing plants rank alongside huge housing, land reclamation and water transportation schemes. Nearly all involve some degree of foreign financial assistance, provided by most European nations, the U.S. and the World Bank.

It is a measure of the growing interest in Egypt as a major construction market, as well as the downturn in work elsewhere, that nearly 50 international consortia recently expressed interest in bidding for a $300m-$400m water pipeline, planned to link the Nile with Suez and the Canal Zone. The Government, however, will not be looking for World Bank or international agency support but is expecting bidding consortia to provide funds in conjunction with government-to-government backing.

Elsewhere in the Middle East, Iraq represents one of the largest markets for construction and civil engineering specialists—though it has from time to time tended to display the type of political uncertainty which has kept many interested parties at bay.

As for the United Arab Emirates, which formed part of the spearhead of the post-oil price-rise construction boom, the prospects for continuing construction work can hardly be said to have been written off. With a federal budget in 1980 of around $4bn—the highest ever—the sum allocated for construction projects has again been pushed up marketly. In addition to individual State spending programmes, this has helped ensure a buoyant programme of works which only looks disappointing when set against some earlier budgets.

Michael Cassell

Export opportunities in materials

THE London Brick Company published some interesting statistics a few years ago which highlighted the problems of overseas expansion for UK construction material producers. *The figures showed that* in one case where a price had been given for delivery to Riyadh in Saudia Arabia, the transport charges worked out at 41p a brick — some 21 times the ex-works price of the bricks themselves.

This may be an extreme case of the extra transport costs associated with exporting construction materials. But it does reflect the fact that it is not easy for UK companies to look to exports to replace any slump in the domestic market. Yet that is exactly what UK producers have had to do in the past few years, to compensate for the general weakness in UK construction demand.

Although some UK companies have realised that the way ahead in the 1980s must be through increased exports, others are still slow to realise export opportunities. A new report on the problems of material producers, published earlier this month by the National Economic Development Office, re-inforces this view. "Some concern exists that the UK is not taking full advantage of these developing markets and that UK imports of building materials have increased," the report says.

In fact, the latest trade figures show a net trade deficit of £581m on construction materials. Exports in 1979 totalled £1.18bn, while imports were £1.76bn. NEDO's Building and Civil Engineering economic development committee, therefore, has put forward a number of suggestions to improve the export performance of UK producers.

One of the report's main recommendations is that UK companies should concentrate more attention on the markets of Western Europe, even though there are faster-growing markets elsewhere in the world. Western Europe already accounts for nearly half of the UK's exports of construction materials, but NEDO points out that the UK is still only supplying a very small percentage of these markets.

This share amounts to about 5 per cent. The UK's market share in individual countries *varies between over 60 per cent* in Ireland to less than 4 per cent in Belgium and Luxembourg. And in spite of EEC membership, the UK's share of that market, at about one third, is less than for the rest of Western Europe. "There would appear to be considerable scope for expansion to Western Europe," the report suggests.

It is not size alone that makes Europe an attractive proposition. Other factors are its familiarity, its nearness, and the prospect of a long term and growing demand for building materials. "Many of our recommendations, particularly those on standards, should help British manufacturers to increase their share of the European market," the NEDO report adds. The report highlights the great concern within the industry over the use of standards in statutory regulations as trade barriers by many countries. This is particularly worrying as neither British Standards nor Agreement Certificates are generally used in this manner in the UK. The situation is especially serious for potential UK exporters to West Germany and France.

Options

NEDO suggests five options for the UK industry to pursue to "ameliorate the present unsatisfactory position." These are: international standards, EEC standards, mutual acceptance of certification and test-results, statutory British standards, and greater reliance of third-party certification.

Progress on the first three options is by no means dependent on the UK since it relies on acceptance of new standards both by international and European agencies. The NEDO report recommends that the UK should only make concessions under the first three options when these are matched by those of the UK's competitors. NEDO also recommends investigation of the "feasibility and desirability" of the last two.

The organisation suggests that better product design would make a significant contribution to increasing exports and reducing imports. "Material producers' designers rarely travel abroad, and so it is hardly surprising if a product produced for the UK market is found to be unable to withstand the rigours of the climate, the unskilled construction worker, or even the journey." The report recommends that a board member should be responsible for the design function in a company and that the importance of feedback on the implications of design variations should not be underestimated.

NEDO draws attention to the perennial problem facing UK exporters from all industrial sectors of long delivery times and failures to meet agreed dates. The report acknowledges that the costs and problems involved in maintaining export stocks are much greater than with products for the home market, but says that investment in adequate stocks "is an essential condition for successful exporting."

Lack of aggression in selling overseas is also cited as a problem for the industry. "Foreign material manufacturers and merchants are said to put a greater physical selling effort into exports than the British," the report comments. The industry does not appear to make full use of the official services provided by the British Overseas Trade Board to encourage exports. But the report also voices criticisms by the industry that British embassies do not offer such an extensive service in this area as other embassies.

The UK's performance emerges as relatively poor compared with other countries. West Germany is the dominant supplier to countries in Europe, the U.S. to Japan and the rest of the Americas, and Japan to the rest of Asia. These three countries have been most successful in maximising building material exports to the whole world.

But if allowance is made for the different sizes of their home economies, the most successful are Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Italy—most of whose exports go to adjacent countries. In such rankings, the UK appears about half-way down the list.

Attractive

The NEDO report—one of the most extensive documents ever produced on world construction material markets—has put forward a "top ten" group of countries as the most attractive future markets for building materials. It includes Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Iraq, China, Indonesia, Thailand, Poland, Ecuador, Oman, and Malaysia.

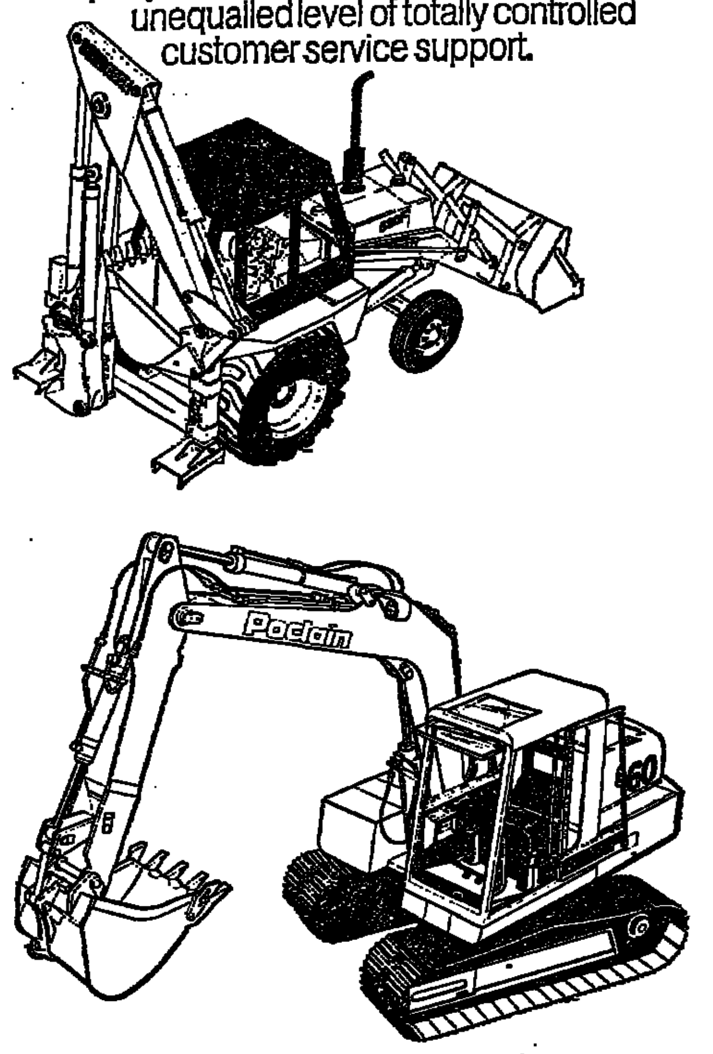
NEDO says that although Japan warrants inclusion in this list according to most criteria, the sophistication of the Japanese material production industry suggests that Japan cannot be rated among the top ten most attractive future markets. Although no Western European countries appear in the top ten, the EEC would have been included if considered as one market, even allowing for the fact that the top ten is based on general attractiveness for all countries, not just British producers.

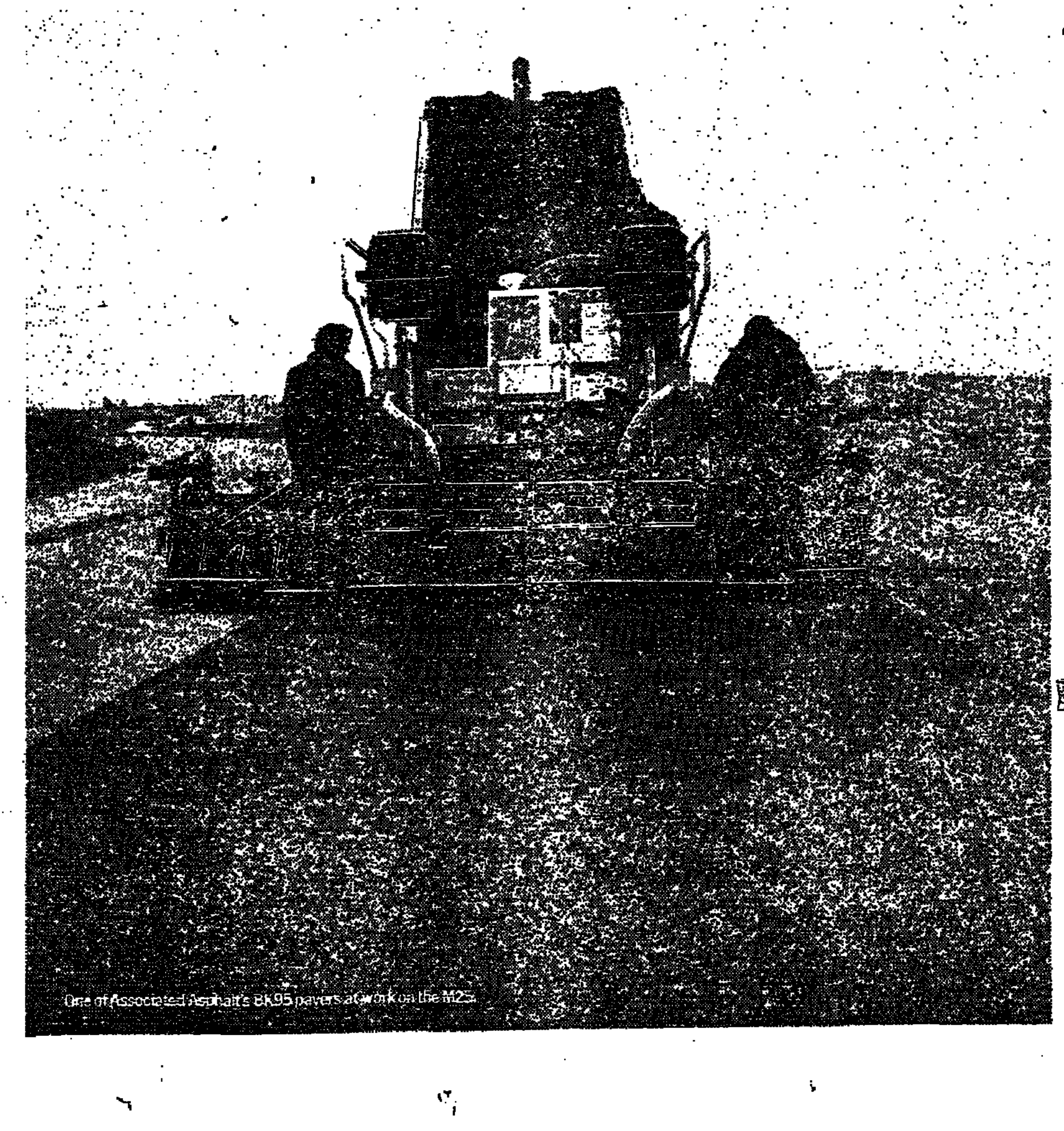
How successful the UK will be in these top ten markets will depend on the strength of competition from other exporters and the UK's success in meeting this competition, particularly by adopting the NEDO recommendations.

The report points out that the prospects for some individual materials may diverge significantly from the average. NEDO intends to carry out some follow-up work by concentrating on six major products to determine what specific action is needed to increase exports and reduce imports.

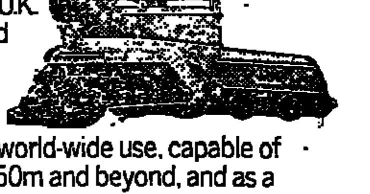
Building materials: export opportunities and import substitution, available from HMSO, price £10.

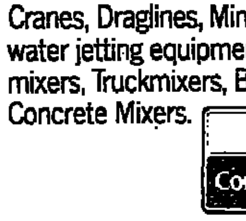
David Churchill

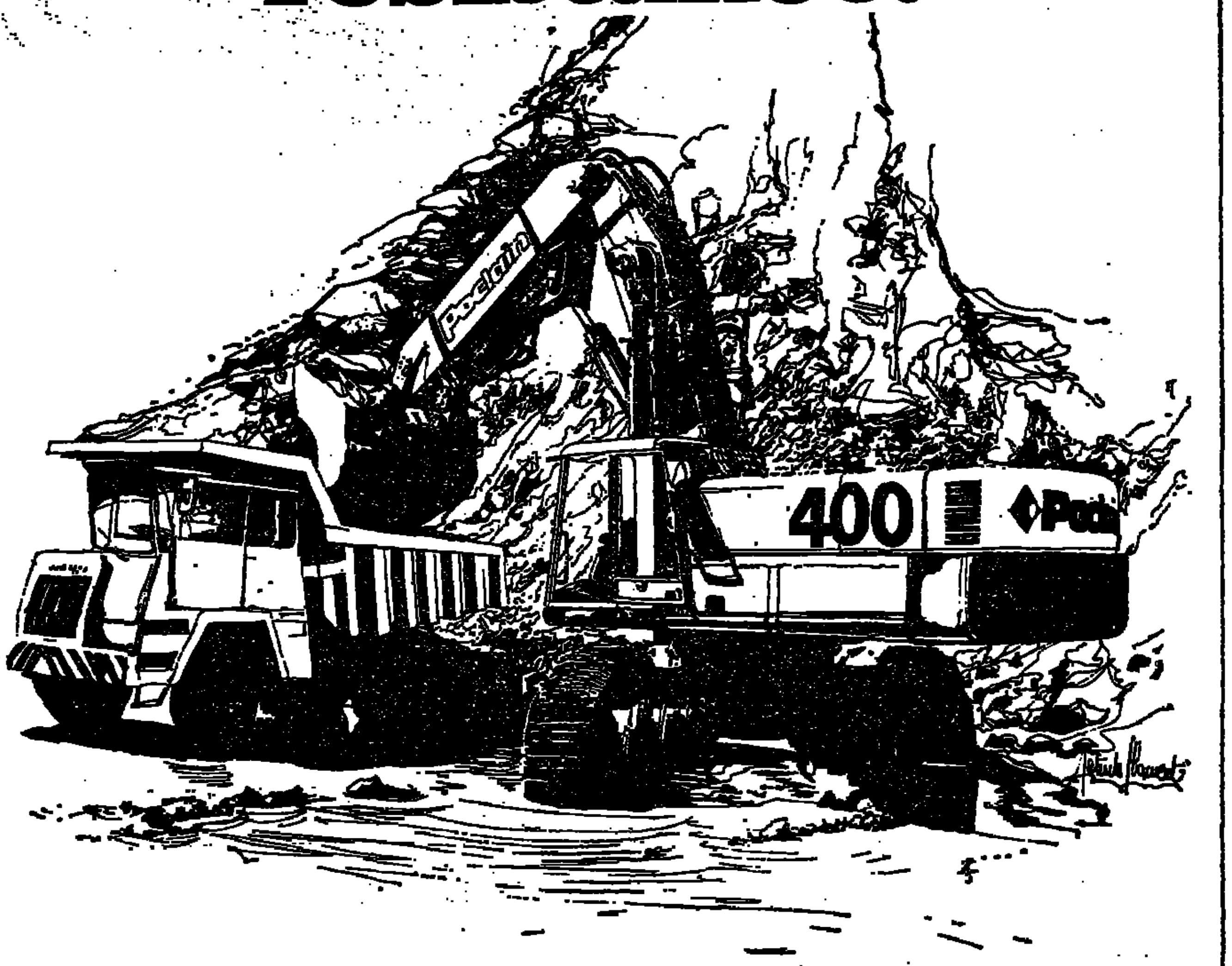




One of Associated Asphalt's BK95 pavers at work on the M25







Hard times inhibit flow of funds

INTERNATIONAL contractors operating in an increasingly unsettled trading environment still face complex problems when funding overseas projects.

Against a background of political uncertainties in the Middle East, and after the upheavals in Iran, the banks are understandably wary about funding long-term projects, particularly in areas which might become unsettled.

Moreover, the trading background against which most international contractors are operating probably justifies a mood of caution. British and European contractors have seen a fall in the inflow of new orders from overseas markets.

This reflects the growth of competition and protectionism as well as the political unrest in some traditional markets. More significant, it reflects the completion of major infrastructure projects for the Gulf States. Finding replacement projects of similar value is proving a major problem for international contractors.

Unprofitable

To compensate for the fall in orders in some areas British companies are seeking to expand in other markets; but developing new areas of activity is costly and initially can be unprofitable.

It is a time when most contractors are looking for the maximum amount of flexibility and response in their funding arrangements. These characteristics, some contractors have argued, have not always been as much in evidence at their banks in the past as they would have liked.

Development projects have become more complex, involving long-term finance, and this requires greater technological understanding among bankers who need to assess and understand the problems experienced by the contractors. Contractors and engineers have often urged that bankers should participate more closely in negotiations, especially where government or other major projects are involved.

But if the banks may not be as flexible as the contractors would like on occasion there are signs of growing awareness in government circles of the needs of the contractors and other companies seeking to develop overseas markets.

In August it was announced that a new projects and export policy division was to be created in the Department of Trade to co-ordinate the support provided by the Government for industry in pursuing capital projects overseas.

One of the present services which can be utilised by the contractor is the overseas project fund. This is designed to encourage greater effort in pursuit of major and difficult project contracts. Subject to prior agreement this fund can contribute up to 50 per cent of the pre-contractual expenses of companies pursuing such contracts.

To qualify for such assistance the project must offer a minimum UK content of £20m in goods and services, with the goods element predominant. Similar assistance can be provided for consultancy or project management contracts which by themselves would make a major contribution to Britain's balance of payments. The minimum UK content for these contracts is £1m net return to the UK.

The aid provided is subject to a maximum per project (in the range of £50,000 to £200,000 in 1979/80) which is related to the gross value of the contract being sought, or ½ per cent of the gross value in the case of consultancy or project management contracts. This contribution is repayable if the contract is won.

Under the aid-and-trade provision scheme aid is provided to assist British companies to secure orders considered to be of industrial or commercial importance and which are "developmentally sound" in developing countries to which the UK does not normally provide aid or where the planned allocation is already committed.

The scheme can provide aid funds alongside officially supported commercial credit to form a "mixed credit." The aid which may be available in a particular case will be the minimum necessary to secure the business while meeting the UK's international obligations on export credit. In certain circumstances, such as consultancies or training, and where the amounts are small, 100 per cent aid funding may be considered.

Condition

Aid-and-trade provision funds are offered by UK Government to the government of the developing country on the condition that the relevant contract is awarded to a British company. The scheme is open to all UK consultants, manufacturers, exporters and contractors who wish to export capital goods or services to a developing country considered to have good commercial prospects.

To gain the aid the proposed project must have sufficient priority in the development plans of the recipient government; it should help to create industry and jobs abroad without producing over-capacity; the technology involved should be appropriate to the recipient country. There should be prospects of substantial follow-up orders on normal commercial terms; there should normally be evidence of foreign competition, officially supported by a measure of funds on aid or other unusually generous terms. In addition the importance of the contract in relation to the company, such as its impact on production capacity, product development, marketing strategy and employment will be assessed.

The Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD), a UK Government department designed to help exporters through the provision of insurance and a variety of guarantees, has recently revised its main insurance support for the contractor—the constructional works guarantee.

This has been replaced by specific constructional works guarantee which provides cover under one guarantee for contracts involving both the supply of goods and performance of services. Cover is related to "sums due" under the contract and the scale of premium rates is the same as for specific guarantees. For business on five years' instalment credit, even with a pre-shipment period of up to two years, premium should not exceed about £4.20 per cent in the weakest markets, and on a sound market should be about £1.50 per cent.

The risks covered by the specific constructional works guarantee are similar to those covered by comprehensive policies except that the top percentage of cover is 90 per cent. No cover is available against failure to take up goods. For contracts with public employers the guarantee provides cover against the refusal of employers to perform under the contract.

The drawback in ECGD aid is that the contractor still has to bear the strains in his balance sheet of a 10 per cent exposure not supported by ECGD. With contract values constantly rising this proportion of the exposure can often be an onerous burden to the overseas contractor, particularly if the contract runs into trouble.

The debate about the limitations of ECGD support still continues. The most common criticism is that settlement of claims is often delayed while the validity of claims is tested; while exclusion clauses in the small print can sometimes mean that a company is not covered for a particular set of circumstances. This can put enormous pressure on the hard-pressed contractor.

John Moore

Alarm among consultants

THE CONSULTING engineer's lot appears not to be a happy one. As a body, consulting engineers are becoming increasingly concerned that the continued erosion of their domestic workload—caused by the slump in UK construction and the Government's cut-back in public spending—is seriously weakening the base on which their overseas operations depend.

They have built up a steady record of growth overseas, so much so that between 80 and 90 per cent of their workload is now overseas. But this position is threatened by the decline in activity in the Middle East, the strength of sterling, and the growing use of locally based consultants.

The consultants' problems are not, however, simply their own concern. Consulting engineers are estimated to have certified for payment over £10bn worth of construction work on overseas projects in 1978. In the same year consultants' activities overseas represented a gain to the UK balance of payments of £375m in fees. Thus any cut-back in the consultants' activities overseas represents a loss to the balance of payments account.

The Association of Consulting Engineers, therefore, has been one of the main organisations involved in trying to persuade the Government to help maintain the vital role played by consulting engineers.

The job of the consulting engineer is to offer a comprehensive professional service on construction projects of all sizes. In addition to the job of designing all or part of a scheme, consultants' services include initial evaluation of a project, provision of a feasibility study, handling of tenders, advice on selection of a contractor, supervision of construction, advice on payments, and overall management and assistance, if required, with the operation of the completed plant.

Consultants are paid for their services on the basis of a diminishing proportion of the project cost, calculated on the basis of an agreed scale. Their fee, however, represents a very small part of the cost element of a project.

Consulting engineers work from private practices on a project-by-project basis, at home and abroad, thus building up a wide experience in various fields. By operating independently of manufacturing or contracting interests, their concern is to help the client select those companies most suitable for the project in hand.

A report published by the National Economic Development Office earlier this month points out that in most areas consultants are free to specify British Standards and in some cases to specify a British supplier "or equivalent." Mrs. Margaret Bloom, who acted as an industrial consultant for the report, was told during her discussions with companies that the tightness of the specification, and the extent to which a foreign contractor is subsequently able to substitute materials produced by his countrymen or others, vary between UK consultants and can depend on the countries they are working in.

The report says that clients are taking more of an active personal interest and can override the consultant's recommendations on behalf of their compatriots who manufacture or represent non-UK interests. "As some countries develop, these influences are becoming stronger—even to the extent that imports are banned where domestic products are available," the report adds.

The main problem facing UK consulting engineers, however, is the lack of demand for their services in the UK. "A few years ago, consulting engineers were very much in demand in Britain," says the association. Nowadays, however, "they are being increasingly deprived of this role by two groups of newcomers to the engineering world. These are construction companies which offer "turnkey" or "package" deals, by which they carry out the project management in the same way as consulting engineers, and in-house engineers employed within Government departments and local authorities.

Province

It is this latter development which most worries the consulting engineers. They argue that public capital expenditure projects such as motorways, schools and hospitals were the traditional province of the consulting engineer and provided their primary source of income. However, since the war, and particularly since the reorganisation of local government in 1974, the public sector has employed a growing uumber of engineers whose services are replacing those formerly carried out by consulting engineers.

The association points out that consulting engineers have several advantages over in-house specialists. For example, the wide variety of projects which the consulting engineers undertake and the range of clients they need to satisfy gives them a broader range of experience. In addition, consulting engineers are able to form multi-discipline teams to meet the exact needs of particular projects.

The consulting engineers' case for a steady home market rests on the assumption that this is the best way to ensure the continued flow of overseas earnings. The main function of a strong home market is to act as a "shop window" to demonstarte experience and ability to overseas clients. The UK also provides a base of operation for research and development, a supply of UK staff for overseas projects, continuous new and challenging design experiences for British engineers, versatility of training for young graduate engineers and technicians, and a training base for overseas engineers participating in joint ventures (which sometimes can be a condition of overseas contracts).

The association's determination to strengthen the home market led to the Government agreeing, in 1977, the need for a more even distribution of government work between in-house and private sector consulting engineers.

As a beginning, the regional water authorities were invited by the Department of the Environment to ensure a reasonable allocation of work. However, the association says that the compliance of this request has proved difficult to verify.

But recently released figures by the Department of the Environment indicate a significant reduction in the proportion of work being undertaken by private sector consultants on projects both being designed and under supervision.

The association, therefore, wants the Government to consider reducing the numbers of in-house consultants as part of its drive to cut civil service manpower. It also wants the Government to confirm the previous administration's agreement that a reasonable proportion of government work should go to private sector consulting engineers and to establish a system to ensure that this commitment is upheld.

David Churchill

S.E. Asia promising but competition fierce

WITH recession hitting home markets and Middle East contracts not so plentiful, the major construction companies have turned to South-East Asia to bolster their business. The shift is not solely a matter of making a virtue out of necessity, though companies like those in Britain facing a 6.5 per cent decline in real terms in work done in the domestic market have a strong incentive to look further afield.

The economies of South-East Asia are witnessing a construction boom that is not simply the result of rapid growth rates (countries like Singapore, Malaysia, and Indonesia can boast rates nearer to 10 per cent a year than 5 per cent). More important, they have reached a stage in their development where construction must play a major part.

Roads and railways have to be improved, ports and airports built, populations with rising expectations have to be adequately housed, possibly in new townships. Without these infrastructural foundations, the rising material standards of living that have been underpinned by rapidly growing exports and better exploitation of indigenous natural resources would collapse, with incalculable political consequences.

Sensing this trend, the small but respected market research company for the constructional industries, Plantecon (Overseas) Research, has recently turned to South-East Asia as "probably the largest growth area for heavy equipment [sales] during the 1980s." Intensive research for detailed market reports is now being conducted in Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines. Reports assessing prospects in Indonesia and China are already complete. Plantecon researchers are convinced that the Middle East construction boom, which was such a panacea for Western construction companies in the early '70s, is about to be repeated in South-East Asia, though perhaps not on the same scale.

The region presents a whole new spectrum of problems to companies hoping to win business there. Each country has differing needs, its own culture and business customs. And as recession is fierce worldwide, so competition is intense — with not only Japanese and Korean contractors vying with European and American companies, but Australian, New Zealand and even highly competent Indian contractors presenting tenders.

The boom is nowhere more evident than in Malaysia, where the building and construction industry has emerged as one of the fastest growing sectors in the economy.

Real growth this year is estimated at 14.5 per cent compared with 14 per cent in 1979, 13 per cent in 1978, 10 per cent in 1977 and 7.2 per cent in 1976.

The Malaysian Treasury estimates that for 1979 about 50 per cent of all non-oil private investment was channelled to construction. With exports expected to grow more slowly because of the international recession, the stimulus for growth during the next two years will ocme from the construction sector. A wide range of incentives to the industry have been provided under the Fourth Malaysia Plan (1981-95).

Incentives

With these incentives, and with an active public and private involvement, construction is expected to account for 15 per cent of Gross Domestic Product by 1982-83, compared with 4.7 per cent currently.

A substantial part of the construction activity would be on housing. The pent-up demand for houses is so great that prices have quadrupled in the past decade. Currently there is a shortage of 3m housing units.

Profits to be made in housing are extremely good. Plantation companies such as Dunlop and Sime Darby with land around the cities have gone into housing.

The latest to go into the business is the UK-registered Castlefield (Klang) Rubber Estate. It has teamed up with Syed Kechik, the richest bumiputra in Malaysia, to develop a 1,900-acre rubber estate it owns outside Kuala Lumpur. The joint company, in which Castlefield will have a 30 per cent stake, will buy the estate from Castlefield for Ringgit 36.8m (£5.4m).

Besides housing, development of commercial buildings is expected to be strong. Major office projects to be built include the Ringgit 100m Malayan Banking headquarters (with a floor space of 800,000 sq ft), the Sime Darby headquarters (460,000 sq ft) and the 37-storey Pernas headquarters.

Sime has entered into an agreement with George Wimpey of UK to set up a company providing technical services in construction. The joint company is about to sign a deal with the Kedah State Government to provide a wide range of services for the development of the State, including new townships.

Government funds will be spent largely on schools, hospitals, and power plants as well as ports and airports.

Taylor Woodrow of the UK is a typical beneficiary of this public work, winning a clutch of useful contracts over the past two years. These include a £3m road-building contract in Johore State, an £8m contract to modernise the main Subang airport, and a £5¼m deal to prepare the site of a £400m liquid natural gas facility at Bintulu in Sarawak.

The Government, through its oil company, Petronas, will be investing heavily in several other major petro-chemical projects, including the building of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) urea plant, two medium-sized oil refineries and the development of an oil town at Paka in Trengganu State.

Among foreign contractors the Japanese and South Koreans hold a dominant role in Malaysia's construction industry.

The performance of the South Koreans has been particularly impressive. Starting with their first contract in 1975 — a Ringgit 75m road improvement contract by Sambu — the Koreans have moved aggressively. They have since completed 14 building projects in Malaysia, and early this year the Korean Construction Minister was in Kuala Lumpur to lobby for more projects.

Last May Hyundai Construction of South Korea got away with two prestigious contracts—a Ringgit 240m award for civil works to the giant Kenyir hydro power plant in Trengganu and the building of a Ringgit 300m cement factory in Perak.

Two Korean groups are also among the final bidders for the Ringgit 500m bridge linking Penang Island to the mainland, construction of which will begin in 1983.

The construction industry is clearly poised to play a bigger role in the economy in the coming years, as the country moves into larger infra-structure projects. Foreign companies will tender for at least 70 major contracts in the year ahead.

But there are possible bottlenecks. These include the shortage and rising cost of building materials, the growing shortage of labour (the industry is employing thousands of illegal Indonesian immigrants), and Government red tape. The federal government authorities acknowledge that bureaucracy is delaying many projects.

Indonesia presents vast opportunities—but only a few have so far been tapped. Plantecon director Winfred Richter reports government plans to spend $9.88bn this year on construction, logging and mining—and almost double that by 1983-84.

Solutions

Mr. Robert Aldred, chairman of Taylor Woodrow International, aptly notes: "Indonesia is a difficult area to work in. It has tremendous resources and a tremendous need for development. But before it can really move ahead, it has to find its own solutions to its own particular problems."

With huge natural resources and a swelling population already in excess of 100m spread over a huge country with difficult terrain, the need for infrastructural spending is urgent. But a formidable bureaucracy, ingrained expectation of kick-backs or "commissions" and a lack of finance means, in the words of Winfred Richter, that "the incentives to attract international investors are still very far from clearly defined."

For those companies prepared to enter the labyrinth, huge contracts are there to be won. UK contractor Balfour Beattie has won £120m of business over the past five years, with a contract last year for 500 kV overhead transmission lines worth £27m. Tenders close in December, for two contracts, each worth about £100m, for a similar transmission line in Java.

The Philippines, no longer the preserve of American companies, has shared in the regional boom, though lack of finance and an increasingly nervous political atmosphere may change this soon. Mr. David Steel, chairman of Coles Cranes, a subsidiary of Britain's Acrow group, has seen business rise from nothing three years ago to a point where he now describes it as "a very important market." Balfour Beattie, with £16m of contracts already sealed over the past year, has in the past few days won a £9m contract for mini-hydro power stations.

Of all the countries in ASEAN, Thailand has perhaps attracted least attention. But the discovery of offshore gas, and a Government decision to boost exporting industries, mostly from industrial processing zones, is changing the position. British civil engineers Paulings have for a number of months been quietly negotiating a contract which may eventually be worth £200m. Again, raising the necessary finance has been a major obstacle.

Singapore is a completely different market. Despite major urban development projects, notably the Marina Centre and the Raffles City complex, this tiny State offers a comparatively *small volume of business for* major contractors. Instead, the high level of training of its workforce and the excellence of telecommunications have made it an ideal centre for establishing regional headquarters, and running servicing and spare parts operations.

A *wholly* Government-owned company, the International Development and Consulting Company (INDECO), *is* offering consultancy services to local companies and is bidding for work in neighbouring countries. Singapore is clearly poised to take advantage in typical fashion of the coming upswing *in construction activity.*

David Dodwell

Housing looks best U.S. bet

THIS YEAR has been one of almost unprecedented difficulty for the U.S. construction industry because it has also been a year of unprecedented volatility in interest rates. With the Carter Administration and the Federal Reserve see-sawing wildly in their approaches to the *solution of the country's* inflation problems, the U.S. pime rate rocketed to a 20 per cent peak in April, dragging home mortgage rates to 17 per cent in some parts of the country.

For several months at the beginning of the year mortgages became virtually unobtainable as the savings institutions which are the main channel for dispensing them hit a serious liquidity crunch caused by the gap between their income from old—and in some cases fixed rate—mortgages and the cost of the new funds in the money markets.

Not surprisingly, housing starts plummeted, leading the U.S. economy to a second quarter slide which produced a record post-war quarterly decline in Gross National Product for the period.

But if the severity of the spring downturn took some by surprise, even more forecasts have been confounded by the pace of the recovery seen in the last three months, with housing starts showing strong month-on-month improvement between June and August. Housing economists now expect the year-end total for housing starts to be around 1.2m compared with *1.7m in 1979 and 2.02m* the year before.

The standard view of the coming decade is that it will present great opportunities for housebuilders as the adult U.S. population continues to expand. According to Continental Bank of *Chicago* the age group 30-44 will increase by 18 per cent in the next five years, ensuring healthy growth of demand for housing.

Overstated

Others are not so sure. Mr. Edward Davis, Paine Webber's building analyst, argues that the Census Bureau data on family formations are overstated and that the 1980s will not be able to match the 1.63m a year household formation rate of the 1970s.

These numerical disputes aside, however, there is strong evidence that the 15 per cent a year increase in average home values between 1976 and 1979, well in excess of the general inflation rate, has convinced many Americans that home ownership is a wise investment.

This probably accounts in part for the sharp recovery in demand in housing in May and June of this year, although that recovery is now threatened by a secondary surge in interest rates which has taken mortgage rates in California almost to the 14 per cent mark from a low in July of 11.5 per cent. These rapid movements in rates make it virtually certain that in time the U.S. will move the way of Britain and permit floating rate mortgages, which are now available only in isolated spots in the States.

According to Mr. Gopal Ahluwalia, research director of the National Association of Homebuilders, the recent rise in rates has already seriously eroded confidence in the industry, lengthened the lists of property for sale, and even started to roll back prices somewhat. Overall this year there has been very little advance in the median single-family house price, up from $63,200 in January to $64,300 in July.

Housing accounts for the lion's share of U.S. construction activity, with spending up to the end of July this year totalling $32.8bn (against $45.5bn in the corresponding period last year), compared with non-residential spending of $29.5bn ($29.3bn). According to Mr. *George Christie, economist at* F. W. Dodge, which compiles these figures, the non-residential sector, having held firm so far this year, is now expected to follow its traditional route of a delayed decline in the wake of the housing sector.

But in the longer run, there is little optimism that the stagnation of non-residential construction spending in the U.S. will show any sign of ending. Between 1970 and 1979 the Commerce Department's index of real construction activity fell from 100 to 96.5 in the non-residential sector as public works programmes at both *Federal* and *State level tailed* off.

Apart from one or two grand projects, such as the contemplated MX missile programme, and the requirements of the booming U.S. oil industry, there is little sign of any return to real growth in capital spending *projects by American business,* although the current support for investment-boosting tax cuts by both Mr. Carter and Mr. Reagan provide one hopeful sign—at least in the longer term.

Retailers, for example, who account for a large slice of this non-residential activity, will, according to Chain Store Age executive magazine, increase capital spending this year by only 5.7 per cent to $4.2bn—representing a decrease in real terms even *though it will produce* a *13.5* per cent increase in floor space. Higher petrol prices and tougher planning *laws have curbed the boom in* out-of-town shopping mall construction.

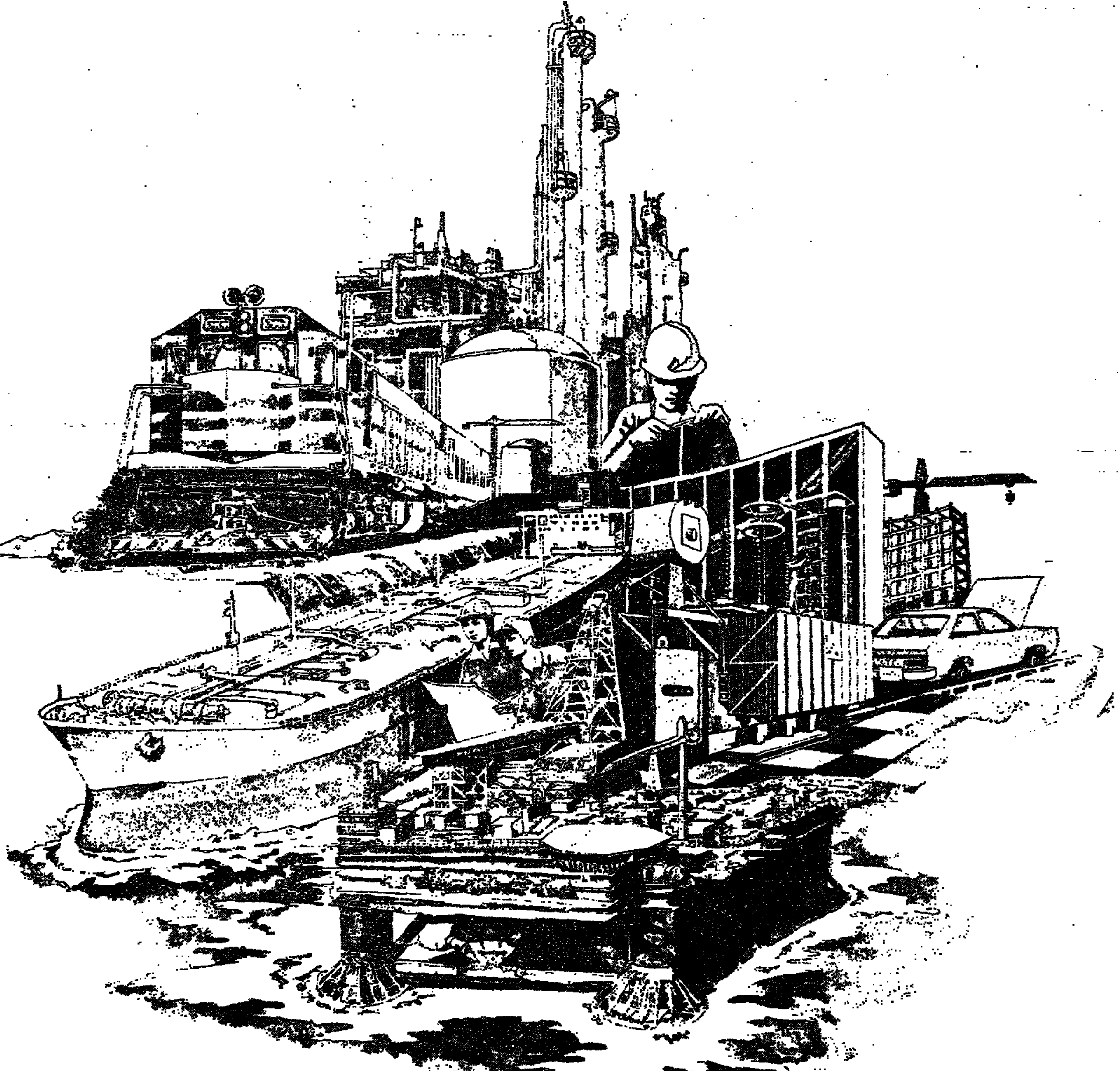
The only bright spot in demand is office building, which is enjoying a boomlet in a number of major cities including Chicago, New York, San Francisco and Houston.

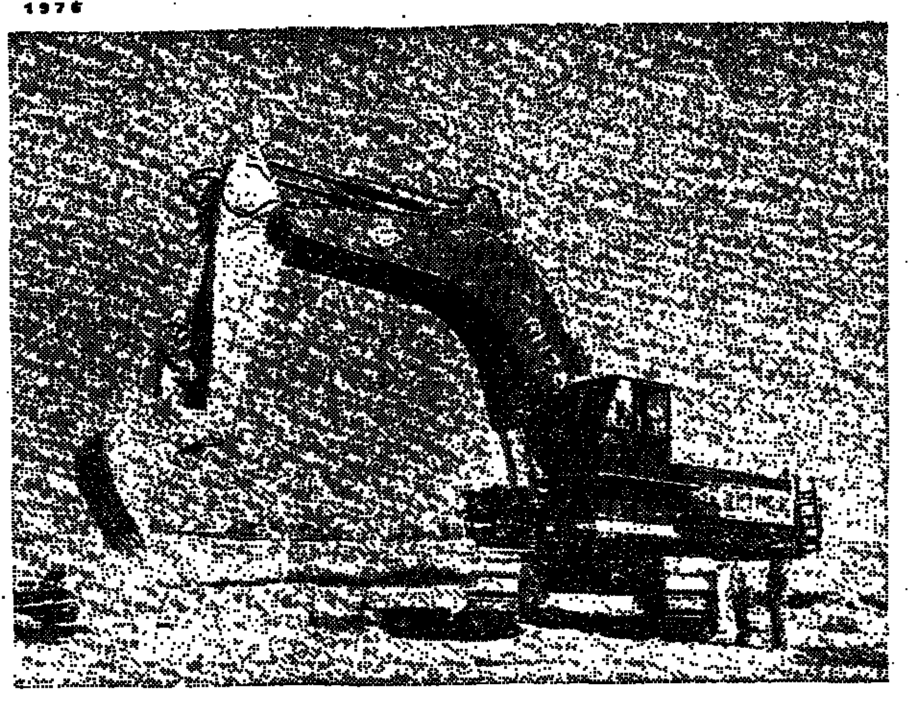
Mr. Don Bodel, managing director of the U.S. operations of UK property agents Richard Ellis, says that with the vacancy rate an almost invisible 1.1 per cent in San Francisco and a slim 5 per cent in Chicago, pressure on rental rates seems certain to remain strong, providing a spur to development *even at Today's* higher interest rates. The office situation has also been much helped by the fact that the current recession was not preceded, as was the case in many cities in 1974-75, by massive speculative overbuilding.

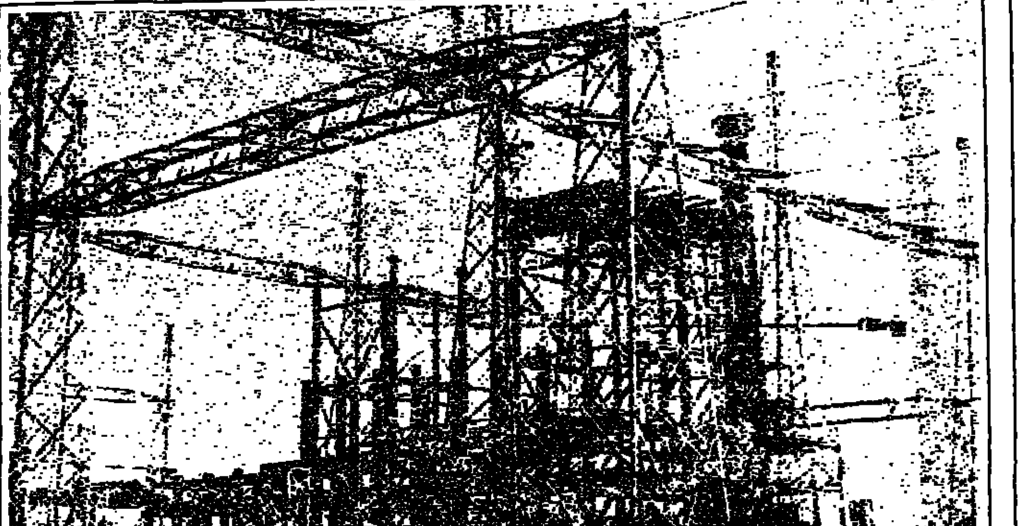
The going rate per square *foot for* prime office space in major cities now ranges from $12 in Atlanta to $35 in New York, showing increases of between 10 per cent and 15 per cent this year. Prices for existing office buildings have also been roaring ahead, from the eye-catching $400m which Metropolitan *Life Insurance* paid for the Pan Am building in New York, and representing $180 a sq ft to the $75 to $100 per sq ft going rate in other major industrial cities such as Chicago, and the $130 per sq ft on prime West Coast sites.

Mr. Bodel also believes that the rapid recent growth of interest in development and property-owning by financial institutions in the U.S., mirroring a trend of 15 years ago, is certain to continue.

Ian Hargreaves







China proving a hard slog

PROSPECTS FOR the international construction industry in dealings with China are likely to remain patchy at least for the next few years. After the initial promise held out by the anouncement in 1978 of a massive modernisation drive, firms selling construction equipment or expertise are finding it a hard slog, with new contracts few and far between.

The present virtual embargo on major new projects means that businessmen with schemes in the pipeline will have to be patient. China has a serious foreign exchange shortage and gives every appearance of not wishing markedly to increase its indebtedness. For many foreign businessmen working against this background, it is proving extremely frustrating.

Suppliers of construction equipment have the best prospects. In July, China's national technical import corporation, TECHIMPORT, called bids for the supply of equipment for six projects, which are being funded under a loan agreement between Japan's Overseas *Economic Co-operation fund and* China's Commission on Foreign Investment. The projects range from port development to hydro-electric schemes.

Tenders

Tenders specify trucks of various types, jeeps, buses, cranes, bulldozers, excavators and a range of other equipment for use in large-scale construction projects. This is believed to be the first time China has called such bids.

The Japanese-funded projects include work to increase coal-loading capacity at Qinghuangdao, China's main coal outlet, situated on the north-east coast; the construction of a deepwater port at Shijiuso in Shandong province and the construction of a railway line between Shijiuso and a coal-mine at Yanzhou; the modernisation of a railway line between Peking and Qinghuangdao to help the movement of coal to the coast; a railway project in Hunan province, and the constructon of a hydro-electric power station also in Hunan to provide additional power for mining and forestry.

While the Japanese loan is not tied to specific conditions on contracts, companies from Japan will win the lion's share.

Funds for capital construction under the 1981 budget will increase by about $3bn per year up to about $33bn. But much of the increase will go towards overcoming China's severe housing shortage. Yao Yilin, in charge of the State Planning Commission, China's main economic planning body, gave little cause for optimism in his remarks about the construction sector.

Efforts to reduce capital construction and achieve better results from investment have been initially successful, he said. Total 1979 investment in capital construction, both within and outside the state budget was held to 50bn yuan (about $30bn) and 295 large and medium sized projects were dropped. Funds for housing in 1981 would increase to almost 30 per cent of total budget, giving a clue to immediate priorities.

In his general review of the economy, Mr. Yao also gave little cause for optimism. He emphasised progress in restoring what he described as a balance between the various sectors. This referred to the greater allocation of resources to agriculture and light industry, as against heavy and defence-related industries.

Best prospects for new construction contracts appear to lie in the coal and power-generation industries. Mr. Yao said: "New collieries are to be opened and more effort made to tap the potential of the coal-mines and renovate them."

His statement will be welcomed by a number of overseas contractors, who are well-advanced in negotiations over the redevelopment of existing mines. Leaders in this field are German, British and Japanese companies, with the Americans making a late entry to the field.

Feasibility

But at some of China's eight high-priority coal mines, progress is slow. Discussions are still in the feasibility/survey phase, bogged down in preliminary talks. A British consortium, consisting of the National Coal Board and Powell Duffryn, was asked to conduct a feasibility survey of two new underground coal mines in the Datong region, west of Peking, but this has apparently not taken place.

British supplies reached agreements worth about $200m for mining equipment in late 1978, but no major contracts *have* been signed since with British firms.

China's dealings with foreign contractors are complicated by the suggestion that re-development of existing mines or the development of new ones could be paid for under barter terms. The Germans and the British have made it clear they are not interested in such arrangements.

In summary, prospects for foreign construction firms and suppliers of havy-duty construction quipment for renovating coal mines are reasonably promising—but again, progress is likely to be slow. However, signs are that the coal industry will be moving forward somewhat faster than other sectors, particularly when coal handling facilities have been upgraded and rail transport improved through the Japanese-sponsored projects mentioned above.

Another area where there is some promise is in power-generation. The Chinese have severe power shortages and are looking at a number of possibilities to increase power-generating capacity, particularly through hydro-power. In mid-March, the U.S. government agreed to assist China with the planning and construction of several hydro-electric power projects. Four such projects were specified in a Government-to-Government agreement: Longtan and Datengxia on the Hongshui River, Three Gorges on the Yangtze, and Ertan on the Yalong.

The Americans clearly hope that provision of Government backing will help U.S. firms get a foot in the door when it comes to the supply of, expertise and equipment for these vast power generation projects.

U.S. firms seem well-placed to assist China overcome its power shortages. Indeed, several American engineering firms have had extensive discussions about the major projects mentiond above. Among them are Dravo and Harza engineers, who have been looking at the Ertan dam project in Sichuan province.

But again progress is likely to be extremely slow, the more so as the projects mentioned, particularly the proposal to dam the Yangtze's Three Gorges, are huge undertakings. The Yangtze project, on present prices, is estimated to cost in the region of $6bn.

In the development of non-ferrous mines, there has been little movement as far as overseas contractors are concerned since December 1978, when Fluor mining and metals incorporation signed a lucrative agreement to help develop the mining and processing of copper bearing ore in the Dexing region of Jiangxi province, south-east China.

The cost of the Dexing project was estimated in 1978 to be $850m, and the cost of the entire Jiangxi project about $1.5bn. It is one of the largest developments of its kind ever undertaken by a U.S. contractor, but again problems have arisen because of a shortage of funds and a slowdown has been instituted.

Hotel construction is perhaps one of the few bright spots on the horizon. Earlier this year, China's Foreign Investment Commission gave the go-ahead for the construction of two hotels involving Chinese and overseas joint ventures. The largest will be the Great Wall, to be built by E-S Pacific development and the China International travel service. Both projects are expected to use millions of dollars worth of overseas components and expertise.

Hotels

China has ambitious plans to expand its hotel capacity. There is talk, for example, of building eight large tourist hotels in Peking, as well as upgrading existing hotels to international standard. If the two hotel projects mentioned above prove successful, there is some reason for optimism that the construction of other tourist hotels will move forward fairly quickly.

A severe drag on all China's dealings with foreign contractors is, of course, the giant Baoshan integrated steelworks being built on the fringes of Shanghai. Baoshan is swallowing up large amounts of foreign exchange, and will continue to do so into the mid-1980s and beyond. Chinese officials are vague about the cost of Baoshan, which is being built under the supervision of Nippon Steel. But the overall cost of the project may range up to $6bn, making it easily China's most ambitious undertaking to date.

China's fitful oil production is putting a squeeze on the amount available for expert to earn much-needed foreign exchange, so Baoshan is bad news for most people wishing to do business with China. Together with the prolonged period of consolidation, which amounts to a temporary freeze, prospects in the construction and other high capital cost areas are going to remain bleak.

Anthony Walker

Long delays spoil Nigerian market

IT HAS been a frustrating 12 months for the construction industry in Nigeria. Already apprehensive about the impending change of Government last September as the military prepared to retire to their barracks, contractors were suddenly confronted with a new tax-measure obliging them to pay 2.5 per cent on turnover, if that would be higher than ordinary tax.

Since most construction companies enjoy large capital equipment write-offs, the effect in many cases was a substantial tax increase. Moreover, in the time-honoured Nigerian way, the measure was implemented retrospectively to the 1976 taxation year. There was some initial resistance, but it was inevitably short-lived since construction companies cannot bid for much new business without having first obtained tax-clearance certificates.

The next problem was dealing with the new civilian Government. One of its first acts was to order a review of more than £800m worth of federal contracts pushed through quickly by the military in their last few weeks in power.

The major one, a $500m fertiliser plant contract awarded to Pullman Kellogg of the U.S., is still in abeyance. The new civilian Government in Lagos State followed the federal lead and shortly after coming to power, summarily cancelling a £480m water development scheme.

On the positive side, the embargo imposed in June, 1979, against UK companies tendering for major federal contracts was lifted in September. The *embargo was one of a number* of measures the military government had used to put pressure on the British Government not to recognise the Muzorewa regime in what was then Rhodesia.

The embargo was never announced publicly and appears to have been applied selectively, so it is difficult to quantify the effects on British trade.

But, the main concern of construction companies in Nigeria in the past year has been the new Government's reluctance to move at all. The most painful example was the long delay in implementing the federal budget. Introduced in April, the budget was not passed until the end of June and allocations to the states, which rely on federal funds to undertake new projects, were delayed even longer.

As Blue Circle Industries noted drily in its 1979 annual report, there was "a downturn in cement demand as a result of political change."

The two projects which have attracted the most attention are the £7bn scheme to create a new national capital at Abuja and the £3bn integrated steelworks at Ajaokuta. These schemes will consume much of the federal Government's direct capital spending over the next few years. Not surprisingly, both have been subject to extensive review by the new Government. So far, however, both seem to have survived.

The master plan contract for Abuja, which happens to be at the *geographical centre of the* country, was first awarded to International Planning Associates of the U.S. in 1977 but it is understood the Federal Capital Development Authority has reassigned it to Kenzo Tange of Japan. So far design appointments have been made for water supply, transporation, sewerage and drainage, telecommunications and power distribution. The only British contract to date has been for the design of the state house and for urban and district design, won by Milton Keynes Development Corporation.

Suspicious

As for the Ajaokuta steelworks, the *main* contract was given last year to the Russian company, Tiajpromexport, but there have been numerous delays. The new Government was said to be suspicious of the Russians and decided to hire management consultants to review their plans. British Steel is believed to be in line for this contract but it has not yet been awarded.

Meanwhile, only the preliminary site preparation has been carried out by the German group, Julius Berger, and the French company, Fougerolle. The main civil works contract has not been let and the Russians are complaining that they cannot start until it is. Dozens of ancillary contracts surround this project, among them the organising of the mining of iron ore and coal, the construction of railway lines and, of course, the design and creation of a town to service the complex. Last May, George Wimpey won a £240m contract to build a metallurgical training centre at the site.

For the moment, however, while the political commitment to the project seems clear, the execution is in some disarray. The minister responsible, Mr. Paul Alongo, was relieved of his portfolio last month amid growing controversy and insinuations about political patronage in the awarding of contracts.

Other major projects of interest in Nigeria include several river basin development and irrigation schemes and urban water supply systems. Infra*structure* remains Nigeria's greatest weakness and the new Government, once established, will probably devote as much if not more resources to solving the problems of poor transportation and communications and inadequate electricity supply. Lagos state, for example, is planning a rapid transit system and contracts worth bout £240m could be let within a year.

The Government also seems ashamed of the lack of infrastructure for a tourism industry. The Minister of Commerce, Mr. Isaac Shaahu, said in a recent interview that the Government was particularly eager to improve the standard of its hotels and would look favourably on any reasonable project.

Construction companies say conditions are still slow in Nigeria but there are indications of a recovery. Mr. F. T. Oldroyd, acting general manager of Tractor and Equipment, the Caterpillar dealer in the country, said last month that the company was beginning to feel an upturn in demand.

"Contracts are coming back at both the state and federal levels. In the past six or seven weeks, £160m in contracts have been let," he added.

Ian Rodger

THE MANAGEMENT PAGE

EDITED BY CHRISTOPHER LORENZ

Giving employees something to chew on

Arnold Kransdorff reports on Kellogg's new communications policy

A 10-WEEK strike at Kellogg all but removed the morning plate of cereal from millions of British breakfast tables last year.

The dispute was essentially over pay, but a confidential poll of workers' attitudes conducted by the company revealed that a contributing factor could have been the poor standard of communications with its 3,000-strong workforce.

According to the workers, management hardly ever kept them informed about the company's performance or plans; neither were they told the reasons for major decisions.

The opinions of staff were also generally ignored and there was seldom any consultation when changes were made in conditions of employment. In general the local and trade Press and radio were quicker to publish information than the company was to inform staff.

To make no bones about it, the company—as it now admits—had no employee communications policy to speak of and, as the poll demonstrated, morale was at a very low ebb.

In an attempt to reverse this situation Kellogg has recently established a procedure to keep all employees informed about the company's activities, performance and personnel policies.

Within a remarkably short space of time, Kellogg claims, its new communications policy has created "a much better spirit" in its six factories scattered around the country and has brought it several benefits.

In the first place, Kellogg says the improved level of communications helped smooth the latest pay negotiations, which resulted in an 18 per cent award for most workers. "We got through the settlement *without any trouble at all*," a spokesman said.

Approaches of union

Secondly, the company believes that the new policy *has been instrumental* in staving off the approaches of an additional trades union. The Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS) had been recruiting among the 600 non-unionised administrative staff, and subsequently appealed to the Arbitration and Conciliation Service (ACAS) after the company refused to recognise it. Three months ago, however, ASTMS suddenly withdraw its application because it had attracted insufficient membership.

"We think we are now satisfying the communications needs of our staff, which means that they have one less reason to join a trades union," the company says.

Kellogg's new policy represents a departure from the common British practice of using trades unions as one of the vehicles for disseminating certain company information among their members. In effect, the new policy establishes a procedure that bypasses them in this. But it is not intended to affect the company's traditional relationship with existing unions over such issues as pay and conditions.

The new policy has been generally welcomed by Kellogg's unions, the largest of which is the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers.

George Cheetam, USDAW's *branch chairman at the company*, described communications as "an awful lot better" since the dispute last year. "All that the company is doing is informing the workforce direct. It saves us a job, actually."

The man brought in to implement the new policy under the title *of manager, public affairs*, is Nicholas Cole, a former public relations executive.

For a man more used to calming controversy, he is *surprisingly forthright* about the role of unions. "Unions have taken away from management the duty to communicate and that was wrong," he says.

"In the past the company's hourly paid workers usually got their information either on the grapevine or through their union. This method, he said, sometimes led to misunderstandings.

"We are now asserting our duty and right to communicate," he adds. Unions still have a distinct function in representing their members, "but that does not include communicating company information."

Cole says that shop stewards will get such information on the basis of their function as employees rather than as officials of a trades union.

The implementation of the policy revolves around a monthly departmental meeting chaired by a director and attended by all 24 departmental managers. Company information such as trading performance and sales projections are systematically released for communication to employees.

Each manager provides the meeting with departmental information, either verbally or *in briefing notes*.

The managers then communicate this information at one or more meetings with the members of their departments. Department heads subsequently pass the information to the foremen who, in turn, inform the company's 2,600 part-time workers.

So, information which basically used to be communicated through the unions will now be passed through the foremen after a chain of meetings.

The procedure can also operate in the reverse direction, as an upwards channel of communication.

Under the new communications policy Kellogg is also providing a two-way forum for the company's administrative staff, none of whom belong to a trades union. *Through* a staff committee, which meets regularly, they are able to contribute ideas and opinions about their work and conditions of employment, and to have prior discussions about major changes affecting their jobs.

Videotaped meetings

Kellogg describes the meetings as "tending to be a bit of a bitching session, so they are not proving to be particularly useful yet." But the company is confident that "they will settle down in time and become a constructive *forum*."

While the staff committee is able to discuss many aspects of staff employment, it does not have any negotiating rights: Kellogg makes an annual pay award to its administrative staff.

In addition the company is considering involving the total workforce in its annual management conference. One way of doing this would be to extend the gathering into an all-employee conference, but apart from the wider policy negotiations, Cole says this is still being appraised because of the logistical problems.

An alternative would be to videotape the proceedings and make the tape available to all workers—an experiment tried out with some success at the latest annual meeting in February this year. A decision will be made later in the year, says Cole.

The company also intends to disseminate information in other ways. An employees annual report *will* be published and the coverage of Kellogg's News, the company's monthly newspaper, will be enlarged.

The company feels that there should also be a weekly bulletin of general news to be posted on all noticeboards. Thus, the recent visit of Trades Union Congress general secretary Len Murray to the cereal packaging plant outside Manchester was announced before it was revealed in the local press.

Hugh Routledge

Nicholas Cole: "We are asserting our duty and right to communicate"

The employees' annual report will be an uncomplicated review by the management and will contain reports from all departments such as human resources (personnel, etc.), logistics (distribution, purchasing), marketing, finance and production.

It will be the only report produced by the company in the UK. Usually any account of UK activities is referred to briefly in the U.S. parent company's statutory annual report. The first UK document is expected to be circulated in February next year.

Having implemented its policy Kellogg is clearly experiencing the first flush of success after a period of low morale. The policy is less than a year old and its effectiveness will naturally depend on whether it can stand the test of time.

It hinges on two uncertainties. Can the staff committees evolve from being a "bitching session" into a more constructive forum? Secondly, will the series of meetings down the line lead to less misunderstandings than in the past?

A ticket to ride to work

BY ERIC SHORT

EMPLOYEES who have to commute even comparatively short distances to work are finding that the cost of travelling takes a sizeable chunk out of their net earnings. Each round of fare rises, whether on train, tube or bus, makes the situation worse: fare increases over the past few years have generally outpaced salary rises. For younger employees who earn less, transport costs can be a disincentive to commuting.

Several long and short-term solutions have been put forward, varying from a vocal lobby for tax relief on travel costs to and from work, to reversing inner city decay so that people again live in town centres near to their work. But one immediate practical solution is for the employer to meet the costs of travel, as part of the employee benefit package.

After all, employers also suffer from the effects of the high cost of travel. Not only is it proving difficult to recruit staff, but there is a high turnover rate among employed staff when they find the burden becomes too onerous. Now a practical solution has been devised by London Transport and by LV travel, a subsidiary of Luncheon Vouchers.

Under this scheme, the employer purchases for his staff a London Traveller Ticket. This ticket, valid for a 12-month period, enables the holder to travel anywhere on London Transport's Red Bus and Underground network at any time. Under the terms of the scheme, the employer must provide a ticket for every employee in a designated group, but usually limited to *those under a certain salary* level.

The actual cost of the scheme and the price of individual tickets varies with the size and location of the company and the travel pattern of its employees. London Transport costs each scheme individually. But because there is a tremendous saving in administration, the cost to the company of each ticket is about two-thirds the price to an individual—around £425 against £670.

The advantages of this scheme almost speak for themselves. Not only do employees using London Transport to travel to work have the costs paid by the employer, and avoid subsequent fare rises in that year but they can also travel free on London Transport in their leisure time. Having the ticket also encourages them to use London transport rather than their cars. They do not have to queue for tickets.

From the employers' point of view, the system helps with the recruitment and retention of staff in a cost efficient manner compared with paying extra salary. LV Travel, *in its* brochure, points out that to cover the travel costs of an employee of £10 per week, assuming he is paying basic rate tax, it would require a gross salary of £710, which with National Insurance and superannuation payments on top would cost the employer an additional £960 a year compared with the average cost of £425 per ticket.

Unclear

On top of those advantages, the employer can cut down on costs of company cars, provision of parking space and costs on London Transport when employees are travelling around as part of their work.

The crunch question with any employee benefit is how it is treated by the Inland Revenue for tax purposes. Not sur*prisingly, the position* is far from clear. The Inland Revenue at Somerset House was only willing to discuss the situation in general terms.

In order for the benefit not to be taxed completely as a salary addition, the first overriding rule is that the benefit itself is not offered in lieu of a pay rise. Employees cannot be offered, at least directly, the alternative of a salary rise or a ticket. This cardinal rule is not breached by the scheme since all employees have a ticket purchased for them.

The second overriding rule is that the employee should not be *able to convert the benefit into* cash. The ticket is not transferable—each ticket has the photograph of the employee attached to it. And only the owner of the ticket, the employer—and not the holder of the ticket, the employee—can claim a refund, for instance if an employee leaves the company.

It is most likely therefore that this benefit will be treated like most other employee benefits for tax purposes. An employee earning less than £8,500 (including the value of all benefits) would not pay any tax on the ticket. For them it is a tax-free benefit and as such invaluable for the lower paid employee.

Employees earning £8,500 or more would be taxed on the benefit, although this could be done on two alternative bases. Either the tax could relate to the actual cost of the ticket—£425, or it could be one-fifth of the market value of the ticket treated as an asset of the company—20 per cent of £670—that is £134.

LV Travel has taken tax counsel's opinion and considers that it has arranged a tax efficient scheme. But it warns in its promotional literature that the tax position varies from business to business. It advises companies to consult their financial advisers on this point. Debenhams, which has arranged this scheme direct with London Transport for its employees in Central London, is still talking with the Inland Revenue.

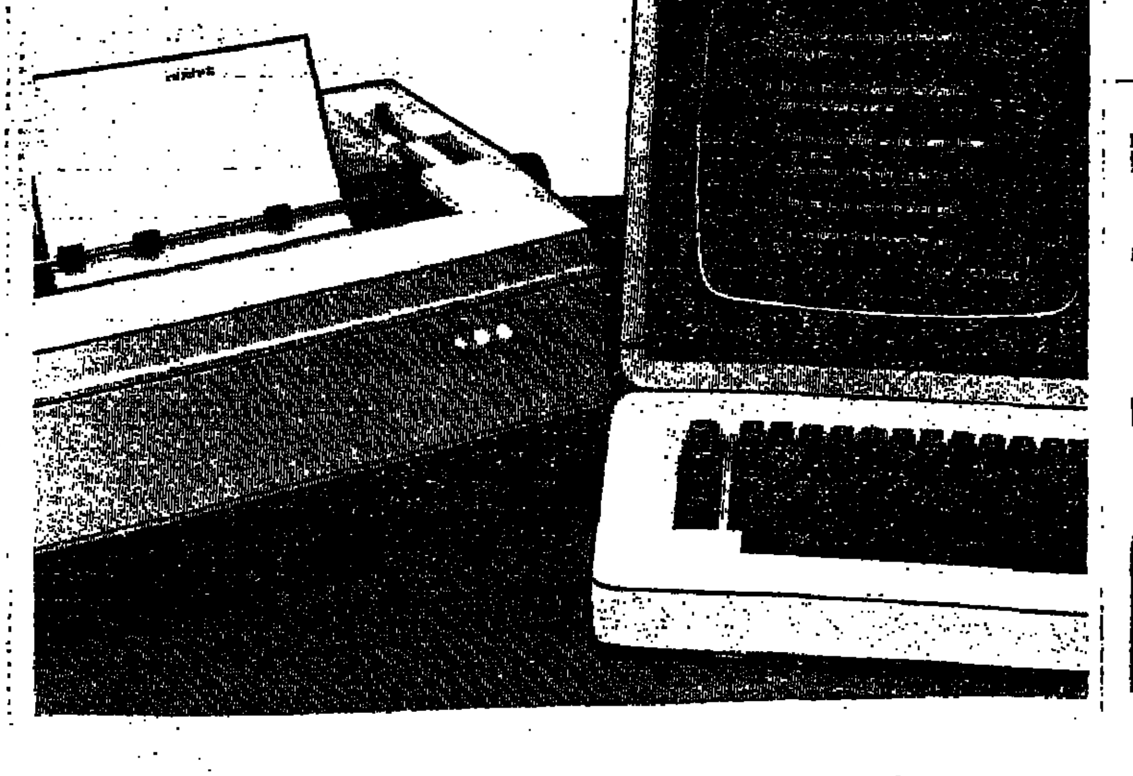
LV Travel claims that because these tickets are made available to every employee and not just a privileged few the scheme will foster good relations with employees. In general this is likely to be the case: but with some companies there are two identifiable groups of employees for whom the scheme could be a liability—notably those who are higher paid and travel to work by car, not using London Transport, *and those who travel entirely by* British Rail.

These employees would have to pay tax on a benefit that is of no use to them. So far there is no comparable scheme offered by British Rail, the Inland Revenue having recently stopped such schemes that were designed so that employers could pay for the season ticket costs of employees using British Rail.

Employers cannot pay these employees an additional salary in lieu of the ticket, otherwise the first cardinal rule is broken and the benefit is taxed in full. Thus to avoid a tax *liability on a benefit not* needed, these employees ought to be able to refuse the ticket even though the company has had to buy one for them.

LV Travel is aware that this problem exists and is willing to discuss it with companies in order to arrive at a scheme specific to their requirements. But employees to whom the value of this ticket is minimal should be wary of paying, through their tax liability, for something that is worthless to them.

* *For further details contact B. J. Hooper, Group Marketing Director, London Transport, 55 Broadway, London SW1H 0BD (telephone 01-222 5600), or D. E. Fillery, LV Travel, 50 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 2RS (telephone 01-834 6565).*



LOMBARD

Monetary policy—the way ahead

BY DAVID MARSH

IT HAS been a black September for British football. Bruising, blood and bad temper have jostled their way to the headlines. The catalogue of violence includes a 30-minute riot at Oldham versus Sheffield Wednesday and the fatal stabbing of a fan outside the Middlesbrough ground. Club chairmen have called for the return of the birch. Sergeant Ruggles, of the Essex police, publicly cautioned a Millwall player for swearing. And Charlie George had a go at a Press photographer.

All this has been going on at a time when the nation has been fretting over another symptom of the decline of authority: an 8 per cent surge in the money supply during the past two months.

Could this be more than a coincidence? It has certainly been striking that as short a time ago as June the money *supply was growing* at a far more respectable rate. That was just the month for which police records show a definite fall-off in the level of football hooliganism.

Already teams of London stockbrokers have been hard at work drawing up impressive charts and diagrams showing the link between football violence and sterling M3 going back for several decades.

Some of this evidence will be on show next week at the much-heralded money supply seminar being organised by the Bank of England and the Treasury.

It is rumoured that several plain-clothes men from Scotland Yard will be on hand to lecture the audience on regulating the money supply through the new crowd control techniques.

It is, of course, a matter of debate whether football hooliganism increases the money supply or whether it is the other way around.

But the new method has already attracted support from No. 10, Downing Street. Mrs. Thatcher returned from her summer holidays in Switzerland impressed both by the legendary skill of the Swiss monetarists and by the almost total absence of football hooliganism in the cantonal state.

The outbreak of rioting on the streets of Zurich during the summer might appear to cast doubt on the theory. But this was just another example of the mechanism, common in all sophisticated market-orientated economies, under which activities are switched into channels outside those normally regulated by the supervisory bodies.

The theory is perfectly simple. It is a lot easier to bring home to the population at large than Professor Friedman's.

A reduction in the volume of bricks, bottles and bovver boots in circulation is likely to have an immediate dampening effect on the aggregates on the football terraces. This can be expected to work through very quickly to the broadly defined masses outside the grounds, bringing the behaviour of most measures of activity monitored by the authorities to well within target range.

How should the transformation be brought about? Mrs. Thatcher's interest has been aroused by the experiences of certain Latin American states. Whenever new governments *have taken power in a bid to* regain control of the money supply one of their first acts has normally been to close down football grounds altogether and to use them instead as training centres for supporters of the old regime who need a little instruction in the new theories.

If British football clubs then could only be persuaded of the *benefits of market economics* now being put into practice by the nationalised industries soccer admission prices might rise so steeply that nobody could afford to attend the matches.

Other ancillary methods being considered include the setting up of Saturday afternoon "attendance centres" for key Bank of England officials and the removal of clearing bank chairmen's bootlaces at the exits of City Underground stations.

It will take some time for the Government to acknowledge that there is any new policy. Ministers are well aware of the damaging implications of any suggestion of a U-turn.

Yet Mr. John Biffen, the Treasury's chief monetary hawk, has already disappointed some of his more faithful supporters with his admission on the Jimmy Young programme last week that Government policy-makers are neither "ideologues" nor "blinkered" and indeed are "constantly relating policies against perceived experience." We shall just have to wait and see.

Something special in the pot

GARDENS TODAY

BY ROBIN LANE FOX

PERHAPS YOU are still taking a belated look at next season's bulb lists. I always find that I am doing it too late. Anyone can choose a hybrid tulip, though I would like to put in a strong word for the self-explanatory Apricot Beauty, a Darwin variety which has caught my eye at Chelsea two years' running.

It is far harder to choose something special, so this week, I will write largely for those who want something special because they do not have very much room. They would be prepared to keep a few clay pans and pots in one of the many cold rooms in their flat or house. Next spring they want to feel that they have coped with an unusual flower, one which has to be examined closely to reveal its full beauty.

Visitors

They will like to think that it has come from a very different climate, that they are looking at visitors from the Caspian Mountains or the hills of Armenia, that something so beautiful can still persist in Iran or Turkey. They will need some sharp silver sand and, in my view, the sort of Arthur Bower's compost mixture which is recommended for growing tomato plants. This may sound unlikely but I have found that its extra fertiliser and open texture are just what most of the rare bulbs enjoy.

Some stone chippings or crushed pieces of old brick are useful on the surface of the pot. Food and drainage are the obvious needs of the best bulbous plants.

Where do you buy them? To your usual outlet, I would add a word for P. J. Christian, Minera, Wrexham, Clwyd, Wales, and Potterton and Martin, Moortown Road, Nettleton, Caistor, Lincoln. Their lists are crammed with remarkable rareties, a tribute to the best sort of British nurseries where the growers are excited when their customers have a success. Mr. Christian lists 26 varieties of fritillary alone, so I will begin with one of my favourites.

Why not try a fritillary called *Acmopetala?* It is a test of your eye, in my opinion. If you think it rather dull, you are missing out on a whole range of beauty. So I am, you probably retort, by disliking dwarf conifers and French marigolds. Perhaps, but *Acmopetala* is a wonderful shade of jade-green, like some Chinese bowl. It is marked with maroon-red stripes and hangs *its flowers prettily on tall stems.* Rare rather than difficult, it is a Turkish delight which will make any gardener proud to have pleased it.

Mr. Christian is reluctant to send out his stock after mid-September when it is starting into leaf. Other nurseries are less scrupulous, so you can weigh up whether you wish to latch on to the fashion this year or do the very best by the bulbs and wait till next August. I planted mine in October two years' ago from Amands of Beehoven Street, London, W1, and they are still in good heart.

Hardy cyclamen are another obvious hunting ground, especially as these nurseries will send freshly listed corms, growing on and perhaps already in leaf. Indoors, I like the white form of the winter variety called *Coumand*, the parent of our florist forms called *Persicum.* At this season, *Cilicium* is another excellent buy, already showing its leaf and ready to send up a cluster of pale pink flowers above its marbled leaves until late December.

Many gardeners find it hardy outdoors, but if you keep it away from winter wet, it is more easily appreciated. There are other collectors' forms, often not many years back from the wild. Any would be a challenge well suited to an unheated house and a clay pan.

If I was shut in a flat for the winter, I would be tempted by a plant like *Ozalis Laciniata* at £1.20 a time. The family is the wood sorrel, many of which are useless weeds. This one is a fond memory to me, as I lost it in a dry year when my attention was diverted during summer.

Before then, it was marvellous, a pinkish white piece of root whose small leaves were folded and pleated round large satin flowers of a clear shade of violet-blue. Each flower is marked with a dark eye in the middle. I assumed that it liked a damp compost which was made up with leaf mould and never allowed to dry out. The leaves come and go but this wonder of nature, at home in Patagonia, is quite unforgettable when you have it in flower on your desk.

Again, it is far better where you can control the rain and *mud.*

Easier, but not cheaper, would be the double form Canadian blood-root, sold as *Sanguinaria.* This, to me, is one the the most beautiful of all flowers.

The thickly petalled white flowers are like a double water-lily, but only an inch or two wide and perfectly formed. They appear in spring just as the large young leaves are opening out to a shade of fresh grey-green. The rounded shape of the flower is set off perfectly by the leaf, one of the prettiest pairs in the garden. It is not difficult to grow if you give it a deep pot of acid leafy compost, built round a mixure sold for indoor *azaleas.*

It must never dry out and must be spared too much sun and any sort of central heating. The leaf dies down a few months after the flower, whereupon the soil should be kept slightly damp. In nature, it grows in shaded woodland. These are not the most obvious conditions for a plant indoors, but the spring flower-shows are proof that many growers carry it off, perhaps most easily in an unheated frame.

Outside, the blood-root's flowers are spoiled by weather and the root is easily missed when dormant. If you have it at your fingertips, you should have no trouble. The flower is *an unforgettable sight.*

There are many other possibilities, scarlet wild tulips, the stemming iris *Chione* and a host of challenging daffodils. Of the four plants I have singled out, the last two prefer cool conditions and a leafy compost, *while the first two like grit, sun* and good drainage.

All are plants which you have to watch. The results are a tribute to your skill, so much more satisfying than yet another bowl of hyacinths.

Hardy cyclamen: another hunting ground

Piggott taking over on Main Reef

RACING

BY DOMINIC WIGAN

THE NEWS came through yesterday that Sea Pigeon is virtually certain to take his place in the line-up for tomorrow's Cumberland Lodge Stakes at Ascot.

Connections made no secret of the fact that they are intent *on winning* a Group 3 race with the record-breaking Sea Bird II gelding and that aim could well be realised.

However, sadly, Jonjo O'Neill *will not be in the saddle. The* champion National Hunt jockey cannot make the weight on Mr. Pat Muldoon's gelding in the Cumberland Lodge and Joe Mercer gets the mount.

The five others who remain in the 1½-mile Ascot event are Noble Saint, *Main Reef*, Fluellen, Dukedom and Fingal's Cave. Lester Piggott replaces Mercer on Main Reef, and it will be interesting to see how the world's most sought-after jockey gets on with the Warren Place colt.

Henry Cecil, commenting on the new association earlier this week, said: "The reason for this arrangement is that Main Reef will be in training next season, and as he is not the easiest of rides, it is as well that Piggott gets to know him now."

There is little doubt that Piggott's association with Main Reef (however short-lived) will be a happier one than that of Mercer and the Mill Reef colt who took last year's Cumberland Lodge.

Mercer got himself hopelessly boxed in on Main Reef in the seven-runner Hardwicke Stakes at Royal Ascot and subsequently the pair earned this post-Geoffrey Freer Stakes comment from a reader of Raceform Note-book: "Main Reef seems to suffer from his jockey's determination to keep him on the rails and completely covered up, for when the time came to go, he was badly pocketed.

"He gave Noelino a hefty bump getting out at the furlong marker, laying the ground for his disqualification and Mercer's suspension."

BEVERLEY

2.15—Grima
2.45—Spurston
3.15—Runett***
3.45—Sharsha*
4.15—Liberated
4.45—Laodamia
5.15—Blues**

TV/Radio

† Indicates programme in black and white

BBC 1

6.40-7.55 am Open University (Ultra high frequency only). 9.05 For Schools, Colleges. 11.25 You and Me. 11.40 For Schools, Colleges. 12.45 pm News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. 1.45 How Do You Do? 2.01 For Schools, Colleges. 3.53 Regional News for England (except London). 3.55 Play School (as BBC2 11.00 am). 4.20 Laurel and Hardy, cartoon. 4.25 Seeing Stars with Terry Wogan. 4.40 Think of a Number. 5.05 John Craven's Newsround. 5.10 Jackanory Playhouse.

5.40 News.
5.55 Nationwide (London and South East only).
6.20 Nationwide.
6.50 Angels.
7.15 Where Are They Now?
7.45 Perry Como's Bahamas Holiday.
8.30 Oh Happy Band!
9.00 News.
9.25 Sportsnight.
10.00 Year of the Car.
11.00 News Headlines.
11.02 Parkinson.

All Regions as BBC1 except as follows:

BBC Cymru/Wales — 11.02-11.22 am Ffenestri. 2.18-2.38 pm I Ysgolion. Hyn O Fyd. 5.55 6.20 pm Wales Today. 6.50 Heddiw. 7.10 Tom and Jerry. 7.15-7.40 Angels. 12.05 am News and Weather for Wales.

SCOTLAND — 12.40-12.45 pm The Scottish News. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 12.05 am News and Weather for Scotland.

NORTHERN IRELAND—3.53-3.55 pm Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 12.05 am News and Weather for Northern Ireland.

ENGLAND—5.55-6.20 pm Look East (Norwich); Look North (*Leeds, Newcastle*); Look Northwest (Manchester); Midlands Today (Birmingham); Points West (Bristol); South Today (Southampton); Spotlight South West (Plymouth).

BBC 2

6.40-7.55 am Open University.
10.20 Gharbar.
11.00 Play School.
2.00 pm The Waterloo: The 1980 Greenall Whitley Bowling Handicap.
4.50 Open University.
6.55 Embroidery.
7.20 Mid-Evening News.
7.35 The Book Programme.
8.05 Stories and Songs of a Scots Family Group.
9.00 M.A.S.H.
9.25 We, the Accused.
10.15 The Brandenburg Concertos by J. S. Bach.
10.35 Cartoon Two.
10.45 Newsnight.
11.30 The Waterloo (highlights).

LONDON

9.30 am Schools Programmes. 12.00 The Munch Bunch. 12.10 pm Rainbow. 12.30 About Britain. 1.00 News, plus FT Index. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 Crown Court. 2.00 The Dale that Died. 2.25 Fantasy Island. 3.45 Cabbages and Kings. 4.15 The Whisper of Glocken. 4.25 How. 4.45 The Best of Marc. 5.15 The Brady Bunch. 5.45 News.

6.00 Thames News.
6.25 Help!
6.35 Crossroads.
7.00 Hart of the Yard.
7.30 Coronation Street.
8.00 The Morecambe and Wise Show.
8.30 *Cowboys.*
9.00 Flickers.
10.00 News.
10.30 Midweek Sports Special.
12.00 Enterprise.
12.30 am Close: "Sit up and Listen," with Sandy Gall.

All IBA Regions as London except at the following times:

ANGLIA

9.15 am Jobline (comprehensive guide to those looking for jobs in the region). 12.30 pm The Riordans. 1.20 Anglia News. 2.45 Story Hour. 5.15 Mr. and Mrs. 6.00 About Anglia. 12.00 Barney Miller. 12.30 am The Big Question.

ATV

12.30 *pm The Riordans.* 1.20 ATV News. 2.45 The Outsiders. 5.15 Doctor Down Under. 6.00 ATV Today with ATV News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 ATV Today. 12.00 ATV News. 12.05 am Late Night Country Music: The Dolly Parton Show.

BORDER

12.30 pm World We Live In. 1.20 Border News. 2.45 Young Ramsay. 5.15 The Lost Islands. 6.00 Lookaround Wednesday. 12.00 Border News Summary.

CHANNEL

12.30 pm The Riordans. 1.20 Channel Lunchtime News, What's On Where and Weather. 5.15 *Emmerdale Farm.* 6.00 Channel Report. 10.28 Channel Late News. 12.00 Police Surgeon. 12.25 am News and Weather in French followed by Epilogue.

GRAMPIAN

9.25 am First Thing. 12.30 pm The Riordans. 1.20 North News. 2.45 Young Ramsay. 5.15 Batman. 6.00 North Tonight. 10.30 Midweek Scotsport. 11.00 Reflections. 11.05 Late Night Country Music (Lorretta Lyn in *Concert*). *12.05 am North Headlines.*

GRANADA

12.30 pm The Riordans. 1.20 Granada Reports. 2.45 Young Ramsay. 5.15 Life Begins at Forty. 11.40 The Flintstones. 12.00 *The Jazz Series* (Annie Ross).

HTV

12.30 pm The Riordans. 1.20 HTV News. 2.45 Chopper Squad. 5.15 Dick Tracy. 5.20 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30 Survival. 10.28 HTV News.

HTV CYMRU/WALES—As HTV West/HTV General Service except: 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 4.45-5.15 Ni A Nhw. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales.

SCOTTISH

12.30 pm The Riordans. 1.20 News Headlines and Road and Weather Report. 2.45 Send in the Girls. 5.15 What Happened Next? 5.20 Crossroads. 6.00 *Scotland Today.* 6.20 *Toya's* Talkback. 6.30 Report—John Hossack on the Scottish Development Agency. 10.30 Mid-Week Scotsport. 11.00 The Odd Couple. 11.30 Late Call. 11.35 Brass in Concert.

SOUTHERN

12.30 pm The Riordans. 1.20 Southern News. 2.45 Young Ramsay. 5.15 The Undersea Adventures of Captain Nemo. 5.20 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.35 Scene Mid-Week (South East Area only). 12.00 Alright Now: Billy Connolly.

TYNE TEES

9.20 am The Good Word. 9.25 North East News. 12.30 pm The Riordans. 1.20 North East News. 1.25 Where the Jobs are. 2.45 Wildlife Cinema. 3.15 The Story of Wine. 5.15 Mr. and Mrs. 6.00 North East News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 10.30 North East News. 12.00 The Odd Couple. 12.30 am Learning the Hard Way.

ULSTER

1.20 pm Lunchtime. 2.45 Young Ramsay. 4.13 Ulster News. 5.15 *Cartoon Time.* 5.20 *Crossroads.* 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 10.29 Ulster Weather. 12.00 Bedtime.

WESTWARD

12.30 pm The Riordans. 1.20 Westward News Headlines. 5.12 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 5.15 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Westward Diary. 10.31 Westward Late News. 12.00 Police Surgeon. 12.25 am Faith For Life. 12.30 West Country Weather, Shipping Forecast.

YORKSHIRE

12.30 pm The Riordans. 1.20 Calendar News. 2.45 Showstoppers. 3.30 Cartoon Time. 5.15 Against the Wind. 6.00 Calendar (Emley Moor and *Belmont* editions). 12.00 *Police* Surgeon.

(S) Stereophonic Broadcast
‡ Medium Wave only

RADIO 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Dave Lee Travis. 9.32 Simon Bates with The *Golden Hour* (part 1). 10.32 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.32 Simon Bates with The Golden Hour (part 2). 3.32 Peter Powell. 6.31 Radio 1 Mailbag. 7.31 Mike Read. 10.02-12.00 John Peel (S).

RADIO 2

5.00 am News Summary. 5.03 Steve Jones (S). 7.32 Terry Wogan (S). 10.03 Jimmy Young (S). 12.03 pm David Hamilton (S). 2.03 Ed Stewart's Request Show (S). 4.03 Much More Music with David Symonds (S). 6.03 John Dunn (S). 8.02 Listen to the Band (S). 8.45 Alan Dell with Dance Band Days. 9.15 Walter Midgley Remembers (S). *9.55 Sports Desk.* 10.02 Funny You Should Ask. 10.30 Hubert Gregg says Thanks for the Memory. 11.02 Brian Matthew with Round Midnight, including 12.00 News. 2.02-5.00 am You and the Night and the Music (S).

RADIO 3

‡6.55 am Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Your Midweek Choice, part 1 (S). 8.00 News. 8.05 Your Midweek Choice, part 2 (S). 9.00 News. 9.05 This Week's Composer: Claude Debussey (S). 10.00 Music for Organ (S). 10.40 Brahms recital (S). 11.15 *A Lai by Machaut (S). 11.45 Andrzej* Panufnik, concert (S). 1.00 pm News. 1.05 Concert Hall (S). 2.00 Music Weekly (S). 2.50 Beethoven and Bach, concert (S), including 3.15-3.20 Interval Reading. 4.20 Austrian Church Music of Haydn's Time (S). 4.55 News. 5.00 Mainly for Pleasure (S) (‡ and mono only from 6.20). 7.00 Music Now. 7.45 "Prometheus Unbound," by Parry, part 1 (S). 8.20 Six Continents. 8.40 "Prometheus Unbound," part 2 (S). 9.15 Scientifically Speaking. 10.00 Jacques Champion de Chambonnieres, harpsichord music (S). 10.15 Music in our Time (S). 11.00 News. 11.05-11.15 Palestrina (S).

RADIO 4

6.00 am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Forecast. 6.30 Today, including 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.30, 8.30 News Headlines. 7.45 Thought for the Day. *8.45 The Best of Bierce.* 9.00 News. 9.05 Mid-Week: Sherrin After Breakfast. 10.00 News. 10.02 Gardeners' Question Time. 10.30 Daily Service (S). 10.45 Story Time. 11.00 News. 11.05 Johnny Morris with records. 12.00 News. 12.02 You and Yours. 12.27 The 27-year Itch (S). 12.55 Weather; programme news. 1.00 The World at One. 1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast. 2.00 News. 2.02 Woman's Hour. 3.00 News. 3.02 Listen With Mother. 3.15 Afternoon Theatre. 4.00 Choral Evensong (S). 4.45 Short Story. 5.00 PM. News magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather; programme news. 6.00 News. 6.30 The Year in Question. 7.00 News. *7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Checkpoint.* 7.45 Person to Person. 8.45 File on 4. 9.30 Kaleidoscope. 9.59 Weather. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.30 Rumpole (S). 11.00 A Book at Bedtime. 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Unforgettables with Edward Cole. 12.00 News.

BBC Radio London

5.00 am As Radio 2. 6.30 Rush Hour. 10.03 The Robbie Vincent Telephone Programme. 1.03 pm London Live. 4.30 London News Desk. 5.35 Music on the Move. 7.03 Black Londoners. 8.00-5.00 am Join Radio 2.

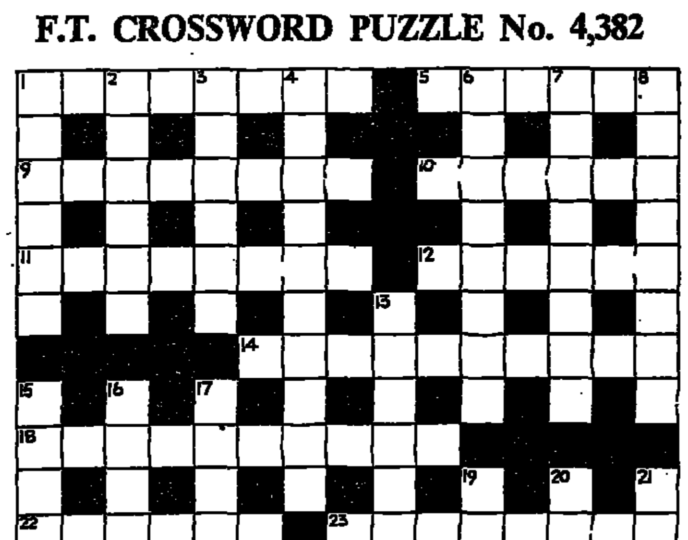
London Broadcasting

6.00 am AM—Bob Holness and Douglas Cameron. 10.00 Brian Hayes with Barbara Castle. 12.00 LBC Reports. 8.00 pm Jazz After Eight. 9.00 Mike Dickin—Nightline including LBC's *Financial Editor Douglas Moffitt advising* listeners on financial problems. 12.00 LBC Reports Midnight. 1.00 am Night Extra. 4.00 Network. 5.00 Morning Music.

Capital Radio

6.00 am Mike Smith's Breakfast Show (S). 9.00 Michael Aspel (S). 12.00 Graham Dene (S). 1.00 pm London Today (S). 1.10 Graham Dene, continued (S). 3.00 Roger Scott (S). 7.00 London Tonight with Sarah Ward (S). 9.00 Nicky Horne (S). 11.00 Tony Myatt's Late Show (S). 2.00 am Night Flight (S).

F.T. CROSSWORD PUZZLE No. 4,382



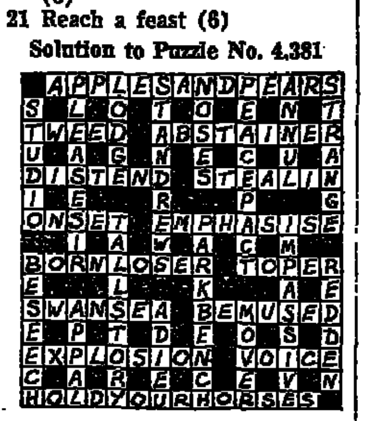
ACROSS

1 Give an account of some French writer (8)
5 Stout and healthy tough (6)
9 Member with a rota from one versed in law (8)
10 Bewilder speaker in part (6)
11 Mean a single Arab (3-5)
12 Ferryman taking fish on (6)
14 Near thing that fields bear (5, 5)
18 Acknowledge ability and sell on trust (4, 6)
22 Blade with drink could be a rabbit (3-3)
23 Soldiers in fall become just a little wet (8)
24 Endured a call to editor (6)
25 Give wrong name to birds returning in the distance (8)
26 Finish in attempt to be fashionable (6)
27 Having a tendency to be bent (8)

DOWN

1 Young woman going to work in lump (6)
2 Wrongly gets in a small seal (6)
3 Supporter—come quickly! (4-2)
4 Sounds like the finest source of wine, but it could be novel (4, 6)
6 *Box every one in trial* (3-5)
7 Chinaman going to burst forth (3-5)
8 Jersey? Yes in one way and near to it in another (8)
13 Eager desire for drawing a liquid in (10)
15 No rating could be so uniformed (8)
16 Showing dislike for a bit of poetry about four (8)
17 Send round rough, steep rock, for a cheap joint (5-3)
19 This month a learner makes place in office (6)
20 National railways take it on (6)
21 Reach a feast (6)

Solution to Puzzle No. 4,381



ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM. S. 836 3161. CC. 240 5258. Grp. Bkgs 836 2699 ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA. Tonight & Sat. 7.00: Cosi fan tutte. Tomor. 7.30: Fidelio. Fri. 7.30: Count Ory. 104 balcony seats avail. from 10 am on day of perf.

COVENT GARDEN. 240 1066. S. (*Gardencharge* CC. 836 6903). THE ROYAL OPERA DER RING DES NIBELUNGEN. Sat 5.30 Gotterdammerung: Mon 7.30 Das Rheingold. No rear Amphi seats avail. on day for Ring perfs.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE. EC1. Bkg. Office 837 1672-3856-7505. Evgs. 7.30. Mat. Sat. 2.30. Last Week. CARACALLA DANCE. Sept. 20-Oct 11. NORTHERN BALLET THEATRE. Evgs. 7.30. Mats Thurs 2.00. Sats 2.30.

THEATRES

ADELPHI. CC. 01-836 7611. Evs. at 7.30 Sat. 4.00 & 7.45. Mats. Thur. at 3.00. TONY BRITTON. LIZ ROBERTSON. PETER BAYLISS & ANNA NEAGLE in MY FAIR LADY. Group bookings ring 01-836 7358 or 01-379 6061.

ALBERY. 836 3878 Gp bkgs 836 3962 or 379 6061 From Thurs Evgs 8.00. Thurs. mat. 4.30. Sat. 5.00 & 8.15. Sian Phillips, Denis Lawson, Half Moon Production. *Rodgers and Hart's* PAL JOEY.

ALDWYCH. S. 836 6404. CC. 379 6233. (10-6 Sats 10-4). Info. 836 5332. Fully air conditioned. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY Ton't 6.30. Tomor 2.00 & 7.30. From Stratford-upon-Avon OTHELLO. SEATS AVAILABLE TONIGHT. FINAL PERFS. In rep with TWELFTH NIGHT (Final perfs Fri 7.30. Sat 2.00 & 7.30). Personal booking now open for Sean O'Casey's JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK. RSC also at The Warehouse and Piccadilly Theatres.

AMBASSADORS. S. CC. 836 1171. Limited Season Opening Oct 2 at 7. DONALD SWANN & FRANK TOPPING in SWANN WITH TOPPING. REDUCED *PRICE PREVIEWS Mon. Tues & Wed next* at 8 pm. Subs Evgs 8.0. Mats Sats at 4.0.

APOLLO. S. CC 01-437 2663. Grp. sales 379 6061. Evgs. 8.00. Wed. 3.00. Sat. 5.00 & 8.00. RODNEY BEWES. FRANCIS MATTHEWS in MIDDLE AGE SPREAD. Comedy of the Year West End Theatre Awards.

APOLLO VICTORIA. Tel. 01-828 6091. 834 2819. Evgs. 8.00 pm. Last 4 days. SHIRLEY BASSEY. A few seats available. Standing room tickets £3.00.

ARTS THEATRE. 836 3334-2132. Evenings at 8.0. Fri & Sat 6.30 & 9.0. Steven Berkoff's GREEK.

BOULEVARD. off Brewer St. W1. 437 2661. Opens Oct 7. Tue to Sun 10 pm. Fri & Sat 8 & 10 pm. THE COMIC STRIP. London's newest anarchic cabaret.

CAMBRIDGE. Joan Collins Hotline. 240 5679. West End debut Oct. 21.

COMEDY THEATRE. CC. 01-930 2578. Grp. sales Box Office 379 6061. Eves. 8.0. Sat. 5.0 and 8.0. (Opens Tonight at 7.0). CLEO LAINE as COLETTE with Kenneth Nelson and John Moffat. A story with music by John Dankworth.

CRITERION. 930 3216. CC. 379 6565. Group bkgs. 379 6061 or 836 3962. Eves. 8.00. Fri & Sat. 6 & 8.45. Air conditioning. Robin Ray. Jonathan Adams. Martin Connor. Tricia George in TOMFOOLERY, the words and music and lyrics of TOM LEHRER.

DUCHESS TH. CC. 01-836 8243. Group sales 379 6061. Eves. 8.00. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30. Thurs Mat. 3.00 MARIA AITKEN MICHAEL JAYSTON in Noel Coward's PRIVATE LIVES.

DUKE OF YORK'S. S. CC. 836 5122. Eves 8.0. Fri. & Sat. 5.30. 8.30. *FRANCES de la TOUR.* DAVID de KEYSER in DUET FOR ONE by Tom Kempinski.

FORTUNE. 01-836 2238. Prev from Tomor. 8.0. Sats. 6.0 & 9.0. Opens Sept. 30. EDWARD DUKE in JEEVES TAKES CHARGE by P. G. WODEHOUSE.

GARRICK. CC. S. 836 4601. Evgs. 8.00. (sharp). Fri. and Sat. 5.30 and 8.30 WILLIAM FRANKLYN in Ira Levin's DEATHTRAP.

GLOBE THEATRE. S. CC. 01-437 1592. Group sales 379 6061. Eves. 8. Mat. Wed. 3. Sats. 5 and 8.15. Beryl Reid. Barry Foster. Peter Bowles. Ian Waters in a new play by Peter Nichols BORN IN THE GARDENS.

GREENWICH THEATRE. S. CC. 858 7755. Prev Tonight 8.0. Opens Tomor at 7.0. Subs. eves. 8.0. Mat. Sats. 2.30. TIME AND THE CONWAYS by J. B. Priestley.

HAYMARKET. Theatre Royal. CC. 01-930 9832. Evgs. 7.45. Wed. 2.30. Sat. 4.30 and 8.00. LEONARD ROSSITER. PRUNELLA SCALES in MICHAEL FRAYN'S MAKE AND BREAK. Directed by MICHAEL BLAKEMORE.

JEANNETTA COCHRANE. 01-242 7040. National Youth Theatre in THE WINTER'S TALE. LAST PERFORMANCE TONIGHT 7.00.

KINGS HEAD. 226 1916. Dnr. 7.0. Show 8.0. Ton't. only! NO ROOM FOR DREAMERS by George Hutchinson.

LONDON PALLADIUM. 01-437 7373. Great autumn attraction. October 6. 1 week only. Britain's foremost entertainer MAX BYGRAVES with Guest Star Broadway's sensational CHITA RIVERA and her dancers. Seats £2-£6.50. Box Office open. Credit cards accepted.

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH. CC. 01-741 2311 Last Week! Eves. 7.30. Thurs. Mat. 2.30. Sat. 4.30 & 8.15. John Gay's classic musical THE BEGGAR'S OPERA. Book Now! From Oct. 1 THE WILD DUCK. Ibsen, a new translation by Ronald Hingley with Richard Briers & Nerys Hughes. LYRIC STUDIO: LOOT by Joe Orton, directed by Kenneth Williams. SOLD OUT! Book Now for the POTSDAM QUARTET, David Pinner's comedy.

THEATRES

LYRIC. S. CC. 01-437 3686. Evenings 8.00: Wed. 3.00. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30. DINSDALE LANDEN. NICOLA PAGETT in ALAN AYCKBOURN'S TAKING STEPS.

NATIONAL THEATRE 'S' 928 2252. OLIVIER (open stage): Today 2.45 (low price mat) & 7.45 SISTERLY FEELINGS *new comedy* by Alan Ayckbourn (today mat Dorcas/Canvas eve Dorcas-Races) Tomor 7.30 AMADEUS. LYTTELTON (proscenium stage): Ton't Tomor 7.45 WATCH ON THE RHINE by Lillian Hellman. COTTESLOE (small auditorium): Ton't 7.00 opening Part Two (Baptism to Judgement) Tomor 8. Part One (Creation to Nativity) newly extended 'THE PASSION'—*Promenade perfs.* all tkts. standing £3. Students £1.20. Excellent cheap tkts from 10 am day of perf all 3 theatres. Car park. Restaurant 928 2033. Credit card bkgs: 928 5933.

OLD VIC. 928 7616. CC. 261 1821. S. Ton't 7.00: Tomor, Sat. Mon. Tue 7.30. Timothy West and Maureen O'Brien in THE MERCHANT OF VENICE. Fri 7.30: Sat 2.00. PETER O'TOOLE in MACBETH. Directed by Bryan Forbes. TOAD Now bkg. 15 Dec to 17 Jan.

PALACE. S. CC. 01-437 6834 RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S OKLAHOMA! Evgs. 7.30. Mats. Wed. and Sat. 3.00. Group sales box office 01-379 6061.

PALLADIUM. CC. 01-437 7373. YUL BRYNNER in RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S THE KING AND I. Also starring Virginia McKenna. HOTLINE 01-437 2055. Evgs. 7.30. Mat. Wed. and Sat. 2.15 Last Week. Final perf. Saturday.

PICCADILLY. S. 437 4506. CC bookings 379 6565. M-Thurs 8. Fri. & Sat. 6 *and 8.40. Stalls from* £2.90. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY in Willy Russell's new comedy EDUCATING RITA. RSC also at Aldwych Warehouse.

PRINCE EDWARD. CC. 01-437 6877. Evgs. 8.00. Mats. Thurs. and Sat. 3.00. EVITA by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd-Webber. Directed by Harold Prince. Group sales box office 379 6061. Seats *available for matinee performances.*

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE. 930 8681. Credit card bookings 930 0846. An evening with TOMMY STEELE and his company. Eves. Mon., Thurs. 8.30. Fri. and Sat. 6.00 and 8.30. Book Now.

QUEEN'S. CC. 01-734 1166. Eves. 8.00. Sat 4.30 and 8.00. Tom Courtenay. Freddie Jones THE DRESSER. The new play by Ronald Harwood. Directed by Michael Elliott.

RAYMOND REVUEBAR. CC 01-734 1593. At 7.00. 9.00. 11.00 pm. Opens Suns. PAUL RAYMOND presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA. New Acts. New Girls. New thrills. 23rd sensational year. *Fully air conditioned.*

ROYAL COURT. S. CC. 730 1745. CLOUD NINE by Caryl Churchill. Evgs. 8. Mon. all seats £2.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE UPSTAIRS. 730 2554. SUBMARINES by Tom McClenaghan. Evgs. 7.30.

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE, Tufnell Park. N7. Evgs. 7.30. Mats. 2.30. 24 Hr Bkg. 607 1128. Today & Tomor (2.30): THE MERCHANT OF VENICE. Tomor, Fri & Sat: MACBETH. THE WINTER'S TALE, Opens Tuesday. Book Now.

SAVOY THEATRE. 01-836 8888. Adv. Box Office *now* open. John Alderton. *Pauline Collins* in Charles Dyer's comedy RATTLE OF A SIMPLE MAN. Evgs. Mon.-Thurs. at 8.00. Fri. and Sat. 5.45 and 8.45. Reduced Group Bookings 839 3092.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE. CC. 01-836 4255. Tickets £1 to £8. Reduced price prevs. Mon.-Fri. 8.0. Sat. 5.0-8.30. Opens Oct. 1: TOM CONTI & GEMMA CRAVEN in the musical THEY'RE PLAYING OUR SONG. Book by NEIL SIMON. Music by MARVIN HAMLISCH. Lyrics by CAROLE BAYER SAGER. Group bookings 01-839 3092.

SHAW. 01-388 1394. National Youth Theatre in RICHARD II. Today at 2.30 and 7.00. Mats. Thurs. at 2.30. Evgs. 7.00. Low prices. Easy parking.

ST. MARTIN'S. CC. 836 1443. Evgs. 8. Matinees Tues. at 2.45. Sat. 5 and 8. Agatha Christie's THE MOUSETRAP. World's *longest-ever run.* 28th year.

STRAND. 01-836 2660. Evenings 8.00. Mat. Thurs. 3.00. Sat. 5.30 and 8.30. LONGEST-RUNNING COMEDY IN THE WORLD. NO SEX PLEASE—WE'RE BRITISH. Directed by Allan Davis.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON. Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0789) 292271. Info. (0789) 69191. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY in ROMEO AND JULIET tonight (7.30), tomor mat (2.00) & Sep 29 (7.30). HAMLET tomor, Sep 30, Oct 1 (7.30). *2 mat* (1.30). AS YOU LIKE IT Sat mat (2.00). Oct 7 (7.30 & 9 mat).

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051. AIR CONDITIONING. CREDIT CARDS. LONDON'S GREATEST NIGHT OUT. From 8 o'clock. Dining and dancing 9.30 SUPER REVUE BUBBLY and in cabaret at 11 TONY MONOPOLY.

THEATRE ROYAL, *Drury Lane.* 836 8108. S. Denis Quilley. Sheila Hancock. SWEENEY TODD. Broadway Musical. Winner of 8 Tony Awards. Eve. 7.30. Half price matinee Wed Sat. 2.30. Grp. sales Box Office 379 6061. Seats from £2.50.

VAUDEVILLE. S. CC. 01-836 9988. *Group sales 379 6061. Eves. 8.00. Sat.* 5.30 and 8.30. Wed. mat. 2.45. IAN OGILVY. SHEILA GISH. JAMES COSSINS in STAGE STRUCK. A new thriller by Simon Gray.

VICTORIA PALACE. CC. 01-828 4735-6. 01-834 1317. Evgs. 7.30. Mat. Wed. and Sat. 2.45. ANNIE. Group sales box office 379 6061. Now booking through Christmas.

THEATRES

WAREHOUSE. Donmar Theatre, Covent Garden. Box office 836 6808. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. FINAL PERFS. Ton't 7.30. Tomor 2.00 & 7.30. Brecht's BAAL. All seats £3.50. Students £2.00 in advance.

WESTMINSTER THEATRE. 01-834 0283. HUGH MANNING as C. S. Lewis in SONG OF THE LION. *Opens Tomorrow* 7 pm. Sub. evgs. 7.45. pm.

WESTMINSTER. S. CC. 01-834 0283. MATS ONLY. Mon-Fri 2.0. Sat 2.30. MR. WILBERFORCE MP by ALAN THORNHILL.

WHITEHALL THEATRE. 01-930 7765. CC. Paul Raymond presents FIONA RICHMOND and a Bedful of Beauties in WOT NO PYJAMAS. Eves. 8.30. Fri., Sat. 6.15 and 8.30.

WINDMILL. CC. 01-437 6312. Twice nightly at 8.00 and 10.00. Suns. 6.00 and 8.00. Paul Raymond presents RIP OFF! Hotter than ever for 1980. The erotic experience of the modern era. Fifth great year.

WYNDHAM'S. Air-cond. S. 01-836 3028. CC. bkgs. 379 6565. Mon.-Thurs. 8. Fri. 8.40. Sat. 6 & 8.40. Dario Fo's farce ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST.

YOUNG VIC. 928 6363. Ton't. Tomor. 7.30. Sat. 8.00. Stoppard's ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE *DEAD* (last perfs.). Fri. 7.30. Sat. 2.00 (final previews) Jules Verne's AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS (children's musical). Now Bkg. for KING LEAR Oct. 1.

CINEMAS

ABC 1 & 2 SHAFTESBURY AVE. 836 8861. Sep. perfs. All seats bkble. 1: GONE WITH THE WIND (A). 70 mm. Wk. & Sun. 1.55. 7.40. 2: XANADU (A). Dolby stereo. Wk. & Sun. 2.00. 5.00. 8.15.

CLASSIC ENTERTAINMENT
Teledata 01-200 0200

CLASSIC 1, 2, 3, 4, Chelsea. King's Rd., 01-352 5096. Last performance bookable. 1: LA CAGE AUX FOLLES (AA). Progs. 3.30, 6.25, 9.05. 2: FINAL DAY! FAME (AA) in Dolby stereo. Progs. 2.00, 5.00, 8.20. 3: FINAL DAY! HARLEQUIN (X). Progs. 2.00. 5.05. 8.10. 4: THE SECRET POLICEMAN'S BALL (AA). Progs. 2.30. 5.30. 8.25.

CLASSIC 1, 2, 3, Haymarket (Piccadilly Circus Tube). 01-839 1527. 1: FINAL DAY! HARLEQUIN (X). Progs. 1.10 (not Sun.), 3.30. 5.50. 8.15. 2: THE BLACK STALLION (A). Progs. 1.00 (not Sun.), 3.20. 5.55. 8.25. 3: CAN'T STOP THE MUSIC (A). In Dolby stereo. Progs. 1.40 (Sun. from 2.30). 4.40. 7.45.

CLASSIC, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Oxford St. 01-636 0310 (opp. Tottenham Court Rd. Tube). Fully air conditioned. 1: XANADU (X) in Dolby Stereo. Progs. 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. 2: INFERNO (X). In Dolby Stereo. Progs. 1.20. 4.05. 6.10. 8.30. 3: BREAKING GLASS (AA). Progs. 1.10 3.30. 5.56. 8.20. 4: McVICAR (X). Progs. 1.10. 3.30 5.55. 8.25. 5: AIRPLANE! (A). Progs. 1.00. 3.0. 5.00. 7.00. 9.00.

CLASSIC. Leicester Square. 01-930 6915. HARLEQUIN (X). 2.15. 5.40. 9.15. THE KLANSMAN (X). 12.30 (not Sun.) 3.15. 7.15.

CURZON. Curzon Street. W1. 499 3737. Bertrand Tavernier's UNE SEMAINE DE VACANCES (AA). (English sub-titles). Progs. 2.00 (not Sun.), 4.05, 6.20, 8.40.

ODEON HAYMARKET. (930 2738-2771). ROY SCHEIDER in a BOB FOSSE Film ALL THAT JAZZ (X). Sep. progs. 1.30, 4.40, 8.00.

ODEON, LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111) Neil Simon's CHAPTER TWO (A). Sep. progs. dly. Drs. open. 1.00, 4.15, 7.30.

ODEON MARBLE ARCH W2 (723 2011-2) THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK (U). Sep. Progs. Drs. open dly 2.30. 6.45. Evening Programmes & Weekends may be booked in advance.

STUDIO 3. Oxford Circus. 437 3300. Lic'd Bar. THE DEER HUNTER (X). 12.45. 4.05. 7.30. Late show Sat. 10.50.

ART GALLERIES

FINE ART SOCIETY. 148. New Bond St., W1. 01-629 5116. ART IN SCOTLAND 1800-1920. Also. Edward Bawden.

IVOR BRAKA. 20th Century British Paintings and Drawings: including works by Stanley Spencer, Paul Nash, Matthew Smith, Sutherland, Moore, Nicholson, Wyndham Lewis, Bomberg. By appointment only. 01-581 2966.

LEFEVRE GALLERY. 30. Bruton St., W1. 01-493 1572-3. An Exhibition of RECENT PAINTINGS BY TRISTRAM HILLIER, RA. Mon.-Fri. 10-5. Sats. 10-1.

MATHAF GALLERY. 24. Motcomb Street, *London. SW1.* 235 0010. *Specialists in* 19th C. and Contemporary paintings of ARABIA.

MARLBOROUGH. 6 Albemarle St., W1. In the Manner of ... New Works after Dürer, Caravaggio, Vermeer et al by RENATO GUTTUSO. 15-24 Sept.. Mon-Fri. 10-5.30. Sat. 10-12.30.

BLOND FINE ART. 33. *Sackville St., W1.* 437 1230. ERNEST PROCTOR—Drawings from the Trenches.

LUMLEY CAZALET. 24. Davies St., W1. 499 5058. 20th CENTURY ORIGINAL PRINTS. Braque, Chagall, Matisse, Moore, Picasso.

THACKERAY GALLERY. 18. Thackeray St., Kensington Sq., W8. 937 5883. RODERIC BARRETT—Paintings. Until 10 October.

THE ARTS

Television

The best of British

by CHRIS DUNKLEY

PRIZE WINNERS

The Prix Italia in each category is worth SwFr 18,000 (*about £4,500*) and the other prize from RAI or elsewhere L 1,250,000 (about £625).

Prix Italia for Television Music Programmes
"A Time There Was (A Profile Of Benjamin Britten)," ITV, Great Britain, produced and directed by Tony Palmer for London Weekend TV.

RAI Prize for Television Music Programmes
"Elegies On The Deaths Of Three Spanish Poets," ZDF, West Germany, directed by Christopher Nupen, script and music by Christobal Halffter.

Prix Italia for Radio Music Programmes
"The Descent," NRK, Norway, produced by Arne Nordheim and Stein Mehren.

RAI Prize for Radio Music Programmes
"Civilisation And Its Discontents," National Public Radio, U.S., produced by Eric Salzman and Michael Sahl.

Prix Italia for Television Drama
"In For Treatment," NOS, Netherlands, directed by Erik Zuylen and Marja Kok, script collectively by Werkteater.

RAI Prize for Television Drama
"A Dream In A Different Key," submitted by NHK, Japan, written and directed by Soichiro Sasaki.

Prix Italia for Radio Drama
"The Witch's Baby," RAI, Italy, by Luigi Santucci, directed by Marco Parodi.

RAI Prize for Radio Drama
"*The Inundation*," ORF, *Austria*, by Gert Hofmann, directed by Hans Krendlesberger.

Prix Italia for Television Documentaries
"Creggan," ITV, Great Britain, written and produced by Michael Whyte and Mary Holland for Thames TV.

Trento Prize for Television Documentaries
"Can't It Be Anyone Else?", ABC, U.S., directed by Dennis Lofgren, produced by Bill Couturie.

Prix Italia for Radio Documentaries
"Questions Round Lesconil," RF, France, by Yann Paranthoen.

Italian Press Association Prize for Radio Documentaries
"The Lonely Crisis: Abortion," RTE, Ireland, by Dick Warner and Marion Finnucane.

It seems that British television really is the least bad in the world and, to be a little more generous, undoubtedly the best in the world at the quality end of the business.

Across the world good drama programmes are a lot more common than good music programmes which, in turn, are *slightly more numerous than* good documentaries, of which there seems to be a desperate global shortage.

As a new post-war generation begins to move into more responsible jobs in broadcasting, television becomes more and not less obsessed with the Second World War.

Those are three of the more *serious generalisations* which can be made at the end of another session of Europe's oldest broadcasting festival, the Prix Italia, which was launched 32 years ago as a radio prize and which continues to grow in several directions today, though television is now clearly the dominant medium.

A number of other, rather more flippant generalisations could be made. For instance: if you are pot-hunting among the Italia juries you would do well to ensure that your programme declares itself against sin. Being against sin *and* featuring a crippled child will almost certainly get you on the shortlist. Throw in unfeeling bureaucrats and/or remote government departments and you should be *home and dry*.

If to this combination you can add a single opportunity for a laugh you can virtually guarantee a prize. The 62 television programmes entered for this year's awards contain dismally few occasions for merriment (most of those few unintentional) or even moments of ordinary good humour. Illness, death, persecution, war and violence are the favoured topics.

English is the favoured language. When a Finn wants to talk to a Dutchman—on screen or in the bar of Riva's Palazzo *dei Congressi which housed this* year's event—he speaks English. The French alone cling jealously to their beloved language and refuse even to supply the festival with a version of their programmes dubbed or subtitled in English as they are urged to do and as virtually everyone else does.

It was consequently ironic to *find one of the two* French drama entries, *Irene And Her Madness*, set in Bristol, featuring an English male lead, and written in a 50-50 mixture of English and French which sometimes crept perilously close to Franglais. It was not among the eight programmes shortlisted by the jury out of the 20 we watched.

By contrast, the single British drama entry (it being ITV's year to supply a drama juror and hence no competing programme) *On Giant's Shoulders*, was not only runner-up for the Prix Italia but also for the RAI prize which is awarded "for one or more specific qualities" decided by the jury. The story of thalidomide child Terry Wiles, with Terry playing himself and Judi Dench and Bryan Pringle acting quite magnificently as his adoptive parents, is in my view an even more *impressive piece of work than* the winning Dutch drama *In For Treatment*. However, since the genius of the BBC is partly in portraying peculiarly English lower middle class traits, whereas the Dutch production dealt with the international subject of terminal cancer, the outcome was unexceptionable.

Even without a prize for the BBC this year, Britain's dominant position in the world of quality television was, anyway, reinforced by ITV's feat in winning both the music and documentary prizes. It is, as my second generalisation implies, hard to avoid the feeling that these two categories were considerably easier to win than was the drama.

There were at least eight good dramas, including Denmark's stark and terrible picture of imminent urban breakdown called *The Nomads* in which vicious family gangs fight for existence in their eternally roaming camper wagons; Japan's *Dream In A Different Key*, and Austria's *German Spring*, the latter two being described here last week.

In the music and especially the documentary contests the difficulty, as the chairman of the documentary jury remarked rather bitterly, was not so much in deciding what was best as what was worst. Considered like that the competition was certainly fierce: in music a Greek entry which featured repetitive long-shots of an open air ballet photographed with a lens so dirty that you could scarcely see the dancers, and then a Russian biography of Shostakovich which seemed to be under the illusion that the man was a famous helmsman: the irrelevant pictures were almost all of yachts.

The documentaries included a Canadian romp through the history of music with Yehudi Menuhin likening "I Dream Of Jeannie With The Light Brown Hair" to Schubert, and a Norwegian arts-and-crafts programme featuring lines which the late Peter Sellers might have borrowed for Bal-ham: "Seljord has let the centuries pass quietly" and "Knut strides about the hills and afterwards gives most interesting classes."

The Scandinavians seem to specialise in such lines, which *gain only some of their absurdity* from translation. The Finnish documentary *The Winds of The Milky Way* offered: "The forest listens when the herdsman's horn sounds" and "One day you will be as old as I and you too will ask 'Where are the roots?'"

Not all the documentary and music entries were as portentous *or disastrous, of course, and* neither London Weekend in the music, nor Thames in the documentary, won with a walkover. Anyway, hard or easy, ITV's double triumph takes Britain's running *total* of prizes into a lead over all other countries which is now quite unassailable.

Even accepting that those who ignore history are condemned to repeat it, some of us were especially glad that neither of ITV's winners was concerned with the Second World War. As a nation there is, of course, no virtue in Britain having something closely resembling a civil war in Northern Ireland to provide Thames with an alternative subject in *Creggan*. But there is virtue in Mary Holland and Michael Whyte deciding to grasp that nettle and explore its effects on the Catholic families in the Londonderry housing estate rather than harking back to the horrors and injustices of the Second World War in the way that the documentaries from Belgium (Enigma code breaking), Poland (clergy in Nazi concentration camps) and Japan (after-effects of Hiroshima) did.

Nor is music immune: East *Germany's War Requiem* illustrated Britten's music with archive film of the Second World War, Israel's entry was called *Babi Yar*, and even West Germany's RAI price winner *Elegies On The Deaths Of Three Spanish Poets* was closely associated. LWT's winning entry, being a biography of Benjamin Britten, inevitably touched on the War but only in passing.

The fascination with the War seems to affect young programme makers even more than their elders who live through it. Perhaps it is precisely the fact that the young have heard so much about it from their parents yet cannot actually recall the last event to shake Europe to its historical foundations which causes the obsession. *Whatever the reasons* it is clear that nothing has happened since 1945 — not the cold war, not the Vietnam war, not the expansion of the Russian empire, nor the birth of the EEC—which has so grasped the imagination (and perhaps the collective subconscious) of broadcasters.

The Prix Italia would seem almost incomplete without a single programme about the War, yet it would be heartening in Sienna in 1981 to find fewer of them and not more than we saw this year in Riva del Garda.

Festival Hall

LSO—Bruckner

The announcement that Yevgeny Svetlanov would conduct the London Symphony in the Eighth Symphony of Bruckner *was instantly* intriguing, and it had a surprising rider: the performance is to be repeated, not at the usual distance of three or four days, but exactly two months' hence. On the strength of what we heard last night, which was something like a first draft (a *finished* first draft, not a rehearsal), it will be a stirring occasion.

One could hardly have preconceptions about how a distinguished Russian conductor, known chiefly for his work in the Russian repertoire and in standard classics, might approach Bruckner — though there is a severe integrity about Svetlanov's conducting which would exclude any risk of serious maltreatment. In fact, passionate severity marked his whole reading: the great symphonic blocks were sharply hewn and tamped firmly into place, the long phrases allowed to speak for themselves without nudging emphases. The conductor's personality never obtruded, and was felt only negatively, in a modest but consistent reluctance to let any moment seem theatrically portentous. Or so I read his trimmed-down dramatic pauses, and his sturdy tempi for the slowest and ripest passages where many Brucknerians aim to wring our withers, and the orchestral blazes brusquely extinguished on cue.

But there *were* proper blazes, and the starkness of Svetlanov's contrasts set the complex, utterly original proportions of the symphony in imposing relief. The elevated radiance of the Adagio was not dimmed, though *Innigkeit* was not one of the special qualities of this performance. I suspect that Svetlanov wants at all costs not to apply cosmetic *espressivo* to the music, and counts on his players to find their way toward the exact speaking weight of a phrase. That they did with varying success: sterling results from the whole cello section, on the one hand, against tentative sketches from the Wagner tubas. Svetlanov failed to give a *langsam* paragraph its due expansiveness (as in mid-Finale, certainly too dry) it may well have been a cool decision not to test his players' sustaining powers prematurely. Two months now for the music to *settle into their heads* and hearts ought to be about right.

DAVID MURRAY

Shaw

Richard II

by B. A. YOUNG

Leonard Burt

From left: Dale Rapley as the Bishop of Carlisle, John Elmes as King Richard II and Chris Bryant as the Duke of Aumerle.

This is the kind of thing the National Youth Theatre does best. *Richard II* contains much of the most moving verse in all Shakespeare and Michael Croft seems to have combed his stables to find the best runners. The play hasn't much action in it; the principals fire off their arguments at one another in elegant terms, and decisions are made purely on the strength of arguments. Mr. Croft has got Bernard Culshaw to design him a set with a high platform at the back, reached by a flight of stairs on either side except when it becomes Flint Castle, when the *stairs are out of sight behind*. On this he arranges his company in their splendid costumes and lets the words tell the story.

I don't *think* I've *ever heard* better speaking from the NYT. John Elmes is a big, commanding Richard, unlike the pretty ones we are *often* given nowadays, and he handles his great *lines beautifully*. He also translates *his* emotions *into* action, which not many of the others do; the Richard that steals John of Gaunt's property is a different creature from the divinely possessed monarch at the lists at Coventry, and the sad exchanges at Flint Castle show a different man again. We shall hear more of Mr. Elmes.

Bolingbroke is played by Douglas Hodge, small and wory; he too speaks well, but with rather too little variety — a quality he inherits from his time-honoured father, played by Ian Kearney with hardly a modulation from the manner he has put on for his earth, realm, England bit, good though that is.

Of the smaller parts, I liked Christopher Bryant's Aumerle, who has the enviable characteristic of seeming alive while he is not in action, no doubt because the director likes him to talk to his father (played by Dean Hollingsworth) when they are in crowds together, whereas *everyone else stands still*. *Nat* Parker is a dashing Mowbray, but mustn't turn his back on the king, this king especially. Of the even smaller parts, Duncan Lamb (Green) seems to me to have a very promising talent; and Caroline Goodall is a beautiful as well as a musical Queen.

NT's The Caretaker

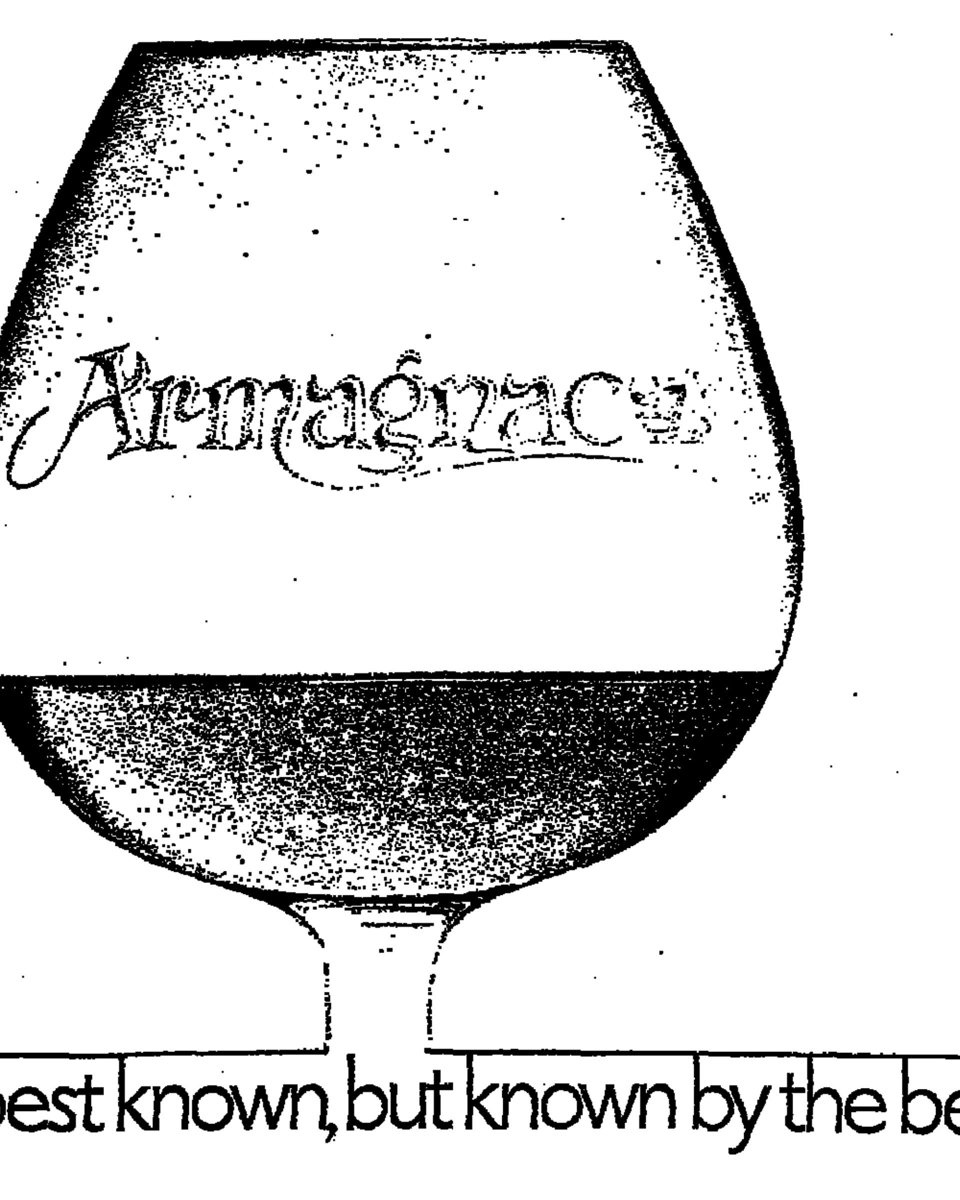
The National Theatre is to present one of Harold Pinter's most famous plays, *The Caretaker*. *It will join* the Lyttelton repertoire on November 11.

The cast is Kenneth Cranham (Aston), Warren Mitchell (Davies), and Jonathan Pryce (Mick). The director is Kenneth Ives, the designer Eileen Diss, and the lighting is by Mick Hughes.

Harold Pinter's two most recent plays, *No Man's Land* and *Betrayal*, were both given their premieres at the NT, of which he is an associate director. The forthcoming NT production of *The Caretaker*, first seen 20 years ago, is staged for the author's 50th birthday. It shares the same cast and director as the BBC Television production of the play which is to be shown on BBC1 in March 1981, produced by Alan Shallcross.

*

The National Theatre is to represent Britain at Belgium's 1980 *Europalia* Festival in Brussels, giving three performances there (October 20, 21, 22) of the production of *Othello* currently in the Olivier repertoire with Paul Scofield in the *name part, and directed* by Peter Hall. The visit is funded by The British Council, Europalia, and British Petroleum (Belgium). Eight other countries are to take part in the festival, which celebrates the 150th anniversary of Belgium's founding.



Belgrade Festival

Bitef 14

by MICHAEL COVENEY

As Yugoslavia enters a phase of post-Tito economic stabilisation, the fourteenth Belgrade International Theatre Festival—Bitef—for many years one of the most interesting and innovative of European festivals, tightens its belt by another couple of notches but still remains an essential crucible of cultural combustion.

This week there are companies from the Cracow Stary Theatre, the Florentine Il Carrozzone nervous breakdown collective (who must surely, one day, come to the ICA in London), the Budapest Studio K, the National Theatre of Zair and the Cuban Theatre Studio of Havana.

In the course of a five-day visit last week I saw two great productions, one very good, one boring and one terrible. *In* order, the producing companies hailed from Split, Dusseldorf, Paris, Louisville and Reykjavik. Starting at the top, Split brought *Hamlet* directed by Ljubisa Ristic. Ristic, who has worked with such as our own William Gaskill, is an impassioned and articulate Yugoslav *mensch* and he threw a flaming torch into *the festival opening*. *For this* is not so much *Hamlet* as *Fortinbras*. Heavily cut and completely rejigged, the show opens with a sombre funereal ceremony for the old king. No doubt about the reference here. The revered leader is transported out to sea in a huge ship that invades the stage like something in the heyday of Drury Lane. Hamlet rejects the offer of a helmet and gives it to Claudius.

Within minutes another huge vessel appears on the stage, an illuminated Viking ghost ship from which Fortinbras leaps waving a rusty sword and declaiming the verse of the Player King. Ostensibly passing through to Poland, his intentions are in fact those of the invading aggressor. Gertrude is revealed as a collaborator: the Viking Queen charges around the stage like a Wagnerian heroine, long blond hair cunningly arranged around her horns; Hamlet sarcastically imitates their bombast but has not the stomach to compete. "To be" and "to fight" are very nearly the same word in Serbo-Croatian. Rosencrantz and Guildenstern drink so deeply they vomit into Yorick's skull. Fortinbras fights the duel with Laertes. Ophelia is a rabid nymphomaniac with a Bo Derek hair-do.

This remarkable company received rough treatment at the hands of Belgrade's self-appointed Shakespeare custodians. Yet, there was something incredibly invigorating about the treatment of one of *the main themes, the succession*. In England — certainly at the Royal Court the other month — Fortinbras is usually *incidental to the tragedy*. But *who is to deny* Ristić *his version? Especially* when acted with such histrionic fervour. After all, the "idea" any of us has of Hamlet is at least as potent as the "real" Hamlet — who, in my submission, does not exist anyway. *All* dissenters may stay home and read the text. In one bound Ristić enters the exclusive league of major international directors. In England there is no director under the age of 40 of comparable talent or fury.

One thing I am always asked abroad is why the fringe generation of directors in Eng*land has failed* to transform the product of our main stages. Studio realism and political righteousness are not qualities of much international interest. The West German theatre, on the other hand, has seen an explosion of directing talent over the past five years, and no better example than the work of Roberto Ciulli, an Italian attached to the *Düsseldorf* Schauspielhaus. The idea that authoritative directors betray the dramatist's intentions is a rusty old saw best answered by *such work* as Ciulli's exquisite *Alcestis*. No doubt the Belgrade Euripidean Society is even now laying down the law, for there was not a Doric pillar or open-*toed sandal* in sight.

Creating a social, dinner-jacketed ambience akin to Eliot's in *The Family Reunion*, Ciulli sets his permanent scene in a Mediterranean salon drinking and eating itself into an exotic stupor. The Chorus is a large back-slapping emcee in charge of a Spanish combo. At least half of the text is a banal embellishment *on the visual* statement. The crucial point is that the arrival of Heracles—a tramp bearing his own beer cans in a plastic bag — reverses *Euripides' discussion* of mourning. From the outset, Admetus staggers around as an objectionable drunk, refusing to accept the inevitable. By making Heracles, Apollo and Death equal partners in the human presentation, the Euripidean view of the gods poses no problem.

It is all rather like the best *production never done by the* Glasgow Citizens. And it is, quite simply, the best production of Greek tragedy I have ever seen. Marianne Hoika as Alcestis takes the floor with Death for a smoochy dance. As they rock slowly together centre stage, her white evening shift falls to the ground. Naked, she submits. Suddenly Death dives for her crotch and hoists her over his shoulder. Slowly, they walk from the theatre. It is a shattering moment. The Chorus tries to keep the party going, picking up a sax to blow a cool version of "Strangers in the Night." Admetus takes the microphone and pulls himself together to sing "Amor." The audience bursts into applause. The magical reconciliation is *beautifully ambiguous*, *Alcestis* returning covered in mud and a wet blanket. Admetus is not sure of her identity and may be breaking his vow as he leads *her off to the bedroom*.

The presentational control never once obscures the very high calibre of the acting. As the night draws on, the prevailing mood, brilliantly sustained, is shattered by outbursts of unpremeditated violence: the throwing of a chair, the disruption of a chess board, the truculent bohemian covering himself with decorating cream before taking a bow for his action painting, a sudden boozy lunge at a girl's bosom, the slap of a face. The production, first discussed on this page by Ronald Holloway, has now run its course. I shall never forget *it*.

For the rest, Phillipe Adrien's version of Witkiewicz's *The Water Hen* presented by the Theatre de la Commune d'Aubervilliers was fascinating proof that this author need not remain in the province of Kantor. It was a very strong production, very French and well acted. Cocteau came to mind. The Actors Theatre of Louisville (who have been reviewed on their home ground by B. A. Young) offered Marsha Norman's *Getting Out*, about the rehabilitation in Kentucky *of that well known social victim*, the unlucky prostitute. Despite the seductive idiomatic swing of Miss Norman's language, this proved worthy and hopelessly old-fashioned. The National Theatre of Iceland's *A Brief Respite* by Gudmundur Steinsson was fine for five minutes and then tedious and repetitive. All about the breakdown of the *family unit living in antiseptic* seclusion and throwing tape recorders at each other. The director obviously had no idea of how people behave when suffering a heart attack.

Imperial Tobacco's Chaikovsky Festival in Bristol

Imperial Tobacco is sponsoring a three-day Chaikovsky Festival on October 13, 14 and 15, at the Colston Hall, Bristol. Featuring the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, the festival presents local concertgoers with a rare opportunity to hear three all-Chaikovsky pro*grammes*.

The orchestra will be under the direction of the Finnish conductor Okko Kamu, and the soloists will be violinist Maurice Hasson and pianist Youri Egorov.

The festival opens on Monday, October 13, with a programme consisting of The Voyevode Overture, Violin Concerto in D and Symphony No. 5 in E minor.

On October 14, Youri Egorov will play the Piano Concerto No. 1 in B flat minor. The *Polonaise from Eugene Onegin* and Symphony No. 6 in B minor complete the evening's performance. The final evening comprises four orchestra works: *Suite*, *Francesca de Rimini Fantasia* and the *Romeo and Juliet* Fantasy Overture.

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FINANCIAL TIMES
BRACKEN HOUSE, CANNON STREET, LONDON EC4P 4BY
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Wednesday September 24 1980

Divisions in the TUC

TODAY'S MEETING of the TUC general council will deal with two awkward issues which threaten to expose and exacerbate divisions within the trade union movement. One concerns the removal of Mr. Frank Chapple, general secretary of the Electrical and Plumbing Trades Union from the TUC's finance and general purposes committee. Some senior trade union leaders were unhappy about this decision and may try to reverse it at today's meeting. The other concerns the inter-union dispute involving thermal insulation engineers or laggers at the Isle of Grain construction site. Here the EPTU and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers are pitted against the General and Municipal Workers Union, whose members have traditionally done lagging work in England. So far the TUC's attempts to find an agreed solution have proved abortive.

Irritation

The snub to Mr. Chapple stemmed from the mounting irritation felt by some of his colleagues on the *committee* about his activities in the last few months, notably his public opposition to the TUC's day of action in May and more recently his criticism of the proposed visit to Poland. No doubt the TUC's life would be made easier if all trade union leaders felt the same on these issues, but the fact is that neither the general council nor the finance and general purposes committee is a kind of Cabinet which can impose the doctrine of collective responsibility: It is a collection of individuals whose prime responsibility is to their own union members. While they may share a general sympathy for the Labour Party, there are bound to be strong differences of view on specific subjects.

Isle of Grain

Any attempt by the TUC at the centre to dragoon individual union leaders into supporting policies they do not believe in is not only doomed to fail, but may have the effect of reducing the TUC's influence in, for example, its dealings with the Government. The publicity given to Mr. Chapple's exclusion is damaging in itself, but will also force other union leaders to take sides in the argument, highlighting the split between "moderates" and others which the TUC's enemies will be only too pleased to exploit.

The limits to the TUC's authority over its member unions are clearly demonstrated in the Isle of Grain affair. The starting-point in this dispute was the decision by the client on the site, the Central Electricity Generating Board, to challenge the privileged position traditionally enjoyed by the GMWU laggers, reflected in overgenerous bonus payments which in turn led to leap-frogging wage claims by other groups of workers. After unsuccessful attempts to bring the laggers within a more orderly pay structure which would apply across the whole site, lagging work was taken over by members of other unions, including the EPTU and the construction section of the AUEW.

In seeking a way out of the dispute the TUC appears to have persuaded the GMWU to accept greater control over the laggers' pay and bonus arrangements, but has insisted that the lagging work at the Isle of Grain should be restored to GMWU members. This the other unions have so far refused to accept. In the meantime the dispute appears to have spread to the Milford Haven oil terminal, where the GMWU is complaining that lagging work is being "poached" by members of the EPTU and the AUEW.

Status quo

The TUC's position is understandable, since it must maintain the principle that work traditionally reserved for one union cannot be appropriated by another, least of all with the connivance and support of the employer. It is condemned to upholding the status quo. Unfortunately the status quo is not producing the desired results in terms of efficiency. Rivalry between unions and unrestrained pursuit of sectional interests have led to anarchic pay structures and low productivity on large construction sites. That is why efforts are under way to bring the unions, contractors and clients together in a national site agreement which would bring stability to labour relations on these sites.

This is the kind of issue—rather than the day of action or relations with Eastern Europe—where greater unity within the trade union movement is badly needed. But if agreement is reached, it is likely to come, not through direction from the centre, but through a recognition by the unions concerned of where the interests of their members lie.

A little cheer for Cossiga

EVENTS in Italy give the lie to those who believe that the country has become utterly *paralysed by its economic* troubles and by the Communist challenge to its existing coalition Government.

Fiat, the country's largest industrial concern, yesterday showed its shareholders' faith in the continued viability of the private sector by announcing a large capital increase. Three days before, Sig. Francesco Cossiga, the Prime Minister, ended nine months' finessing and intriguing by ratifying a decision to permit Alfa Romeo to launch a joint venture with Nissan, the Japanese concern, building cars in southern Italy.

But much remains to be done to prove that the body politic has regained its freedom of action. First and foremost, the emergency decrees designed to cut consumption and increase investment are still wending their difficult way through Parliament.

Rogue mines

Even Sig. Cossiga's ratification of Alfa-Nissan, though it does not need parliamentary approval, contains what Italians call *mine vagante* or rogue mines bobbing about in the political waters and liable to go off without notice. He said the venture must not clash with any car policy of the Common Market, or with the interests of the Italian motor industry. An obvious reading is that Alfa-Nissan has been warned not to exceed the planned annual output of 60,000 vehicles. Given the poor productivity in Alfa's existing southern plant, the danger of that happening may be small.

As regards Sig. Cossiga's intention to prevent damage to the Italian industry at large, it may yet open backdoors to future protests from Fiat. The leading Italian car maker has a point: Alfa has been a chronic maker of losses. Now that Fiat cars have also fallen on bad days, the company can be expected to fight every inch of the way. True, Sig. Cossiga's decision in favour of Alfa-Nissan and the 1,500 jobs it will create, does look final. Only nothing ever seems to be quite final in Italian politics.

The reason is not merely procrastination and sheer love of intrigue: the real reason often is the uncomfortable presence of the Communist *Party looming over Italian* politics. To take an instance: trade union leaders appear to have recognised that Fiat must reduce the work force building cars. But the rank and file at Turin thinks differently and the Communists have taken up its cause. Several work stoppages have taken place in protest against Fiat's intention to dismiss 14,500 workers.

Borrowing

None of this will help much with the capital imports which Italy needs to offset a current deficit which had mounted to £1.8bn this year by the end of August. For some time the lira has been weak in the European Monetary System, and there has been the inevitable talk about possible devaluation. It must, however, be pointed out that so far international borrowing has presented no problems: there are less solid borrowers around than Italy.

On the purely political front, Sig. Enrico Berlinguer, the Communist leader, has made it crystal clear that he intends to fight the Cossiga Government tooth and nail. The Communists and others of a like mind have already defeated the farthest reaching part of the Government's recovery plan, the proposal to abolish the automatic indexing of wages through the *scala mobile.*

To Sig. Berlinguer, the Socialists are the weak link in the Government. Many of them disapproved when their leader, Sig. Bettino Craxi, took the party into a coalition under the Christian Democrat, Sig. Cossiga. Within the Socialist Party a trial of strength may come early in December, when the party conference meets. It will be important for Sig. Craxi to be able to face the conference as the exponent of a Government that has some reforms to show.

The Alfa-Nissan decision *could be of help to Sig Craxi*, since it has trade union support. So should the Government's seeming determination at last seriously to tackle tax evasion. But first the emergency programme will have to go though the Parliament in a form not further watered down, and the seas will have to be cleared of as many rogue mines as possible.

Robin Pauley looks at the expenditure battle between local councils and the Government

Time to call in the efficiency experts

"In general, the corporate funds are but partially applied to the municipal purposes such as the preservation of the peace by an efficient police or in watching or in lighting the town, but they are frequently expended in feasting and paying the salaries of incompetent officers." Royal Commission into Municipal Corporations, 1835.

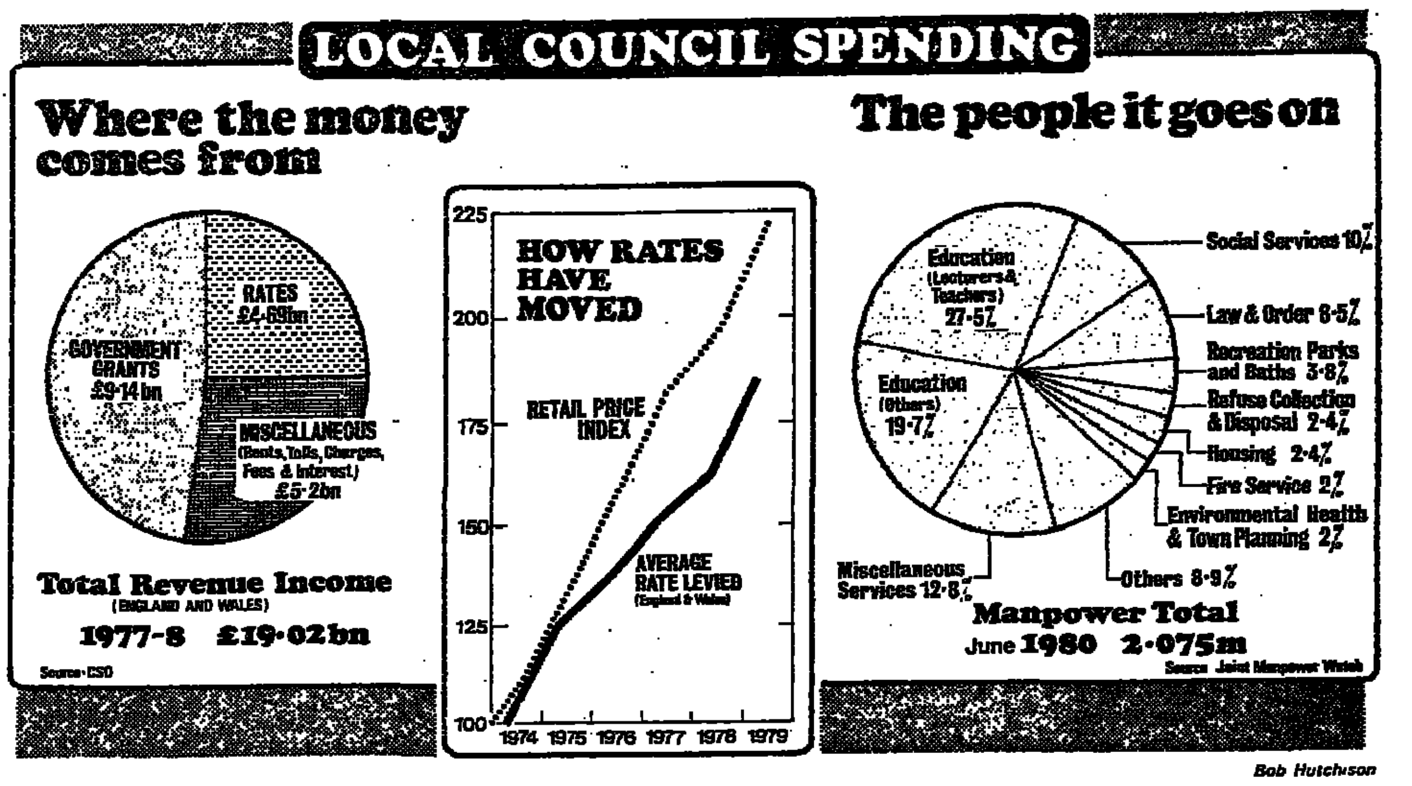
BRITAIN'S local authorities will spend about £22bn this year, one quarter of all public expenditure. But no one knows how efficiently this money is being spent and few reliable measures have yet been developed to monitor spending.

In the past 20 years the number of people employed in local government has climbed by 54 per cent (to 2.075m in June this year). Wages and salaries now eat up 70 per cent of all local authority *revenue* expenditure and the failure to reduce manning levels (only 29,000 jobs have been cut in the past year) is a persistent theme of ratepayers and other local authority critics across the country.

The councils have made enormous cuts in *capital* expenditure in the past six years. It has nose-dived by 56 per cent in real terms as housing and school building programmes have been slashed. Capital expenditure this year will be about £4bn. But this type of spending is usually financed by long-term borrowing or government grants.

Ratepayers have to find the money for a quarter of the *revenue expenditure (see* chart) and this has increased by 5 per cent overall in real terms since 1974.

This figure, of course, hides wide regional variations. Individual domestic rates, for example, vary from a low of 80p in the £ in Ealing to a high of 176.5p in the £ in Newcastle. The average domestic rate bill ranges from £72 a year in Ogwr, mid Glamorgan to £404 in Camden, North London.



Bob Hutchison

The responsibilities of authorities—from schools to cemeteries and from pavements to housing—are so varied that their revenue expenditure is easier to analyse if it is broken down into its major components.

Education is at the heart of local authority manning and finance levels. It is the service which ratepayers generally, and *Tories in particular*, do *not* want to see cut. Even tiny cuts are fought every inch of the way. Teachers have 12-month contracts which makes quick action to reduce numbers impossible and although school rolls are falling it will not be until 1983-84 before any real results in manpower filter through.

The education service accounts for the largest block of both local authority manpower and spending—there are now 570,824 local authority teachers and lecturers in England and Wales and 409,219 other employees in education. This is almost half of all council staff and will cost £7.4bn this year.

But no one knows if all this money is being spent efficiently. Newcastle, for example, has the lowest teacher-pupil ratio in England outside inner London (1:15). But school meals cost more to prepare in the city than anywhere else in the country. No one seems to know why.

Social Services now employ 206,000 people compared with 188,000 in 1975, a rise of 9.6 per cent. A total of £1.5bn will be spent on personal social services this year. The number of children in care, old people over 75, and physically and mentally handicapped people being looked after in the community rather than institutions have all risen since 1975.

There is, however, widespread public suspicion that the social services departments are woefully inefficient and not wholly necessary. Here, too, there is no reliable way of measuring value for money. But councils which repeatedly insist they will not cut into services at all are effectively saying that they will not examine whether all the *social workers, their secretaries,* clerks, assistants and administrative staff are necessary.

Law and Order Services—Police, traffic wardens, court staff and probation staff—continue to cost more. But this is the result of deliberate Government policy. The total of 175,697 employed in these services in June was 3 per cent up on last year and now represents 8.5 per cent of local authority manpower, at a cost of £1.85bn this year. (However, the number of traffic wardens has fallen by 318, or 7 per cent, since June last year, one of the largest percentage reductions in any local manpower sector.)

Miscellaneous Services, which cover a multitude of items—from engineers and treasurers and other non-listed departments to school crossing "lollipop" men—employ 265,276 people or 12.8 per cent of the *workforce.*

Councils, both Conservative and Labour, argue that part of the reason why manpower figures have scarcely been cut is that the Health reorganisation of local government increased the number of departments and added a whole new layer of costly administrators.

They also *say* that successive Governments have heaped increasing responsibilities on them without giving them enough money to pay for them.

But local government is no different from any other organisation when it comes to empire building and a reluctance to see one's own domain reduced or even eliminated. Chief architects are past masters at justifying their need for batteries of planners and finance directors claim a similar need for statisticians and analysts—often to measure the cost-effectiveness of other departments.

The hard truth is that ratepayers, who have already seen their rates rise by an average of 27 per cent this year, face even larger increases next year.

The Labour councils which have been responsible for some of the biggest rises were mostly returned in the May elections. Whether this was mainly the swing of the political pendulum or genuine voter approval for higher spending is an open question.

But the sums involved are now so great that the whole area of local authority performance needs much more effective analysis if ratepayers are to be sure that they are indeed getting value for money.

For example, local authorities currently make very little use of their own organisation to help them assess efficiency over a range of services. LAMSAC (Local Authority Management Services and Computer Committee) can, for a small fee, test whether a council is collecting its rents or garbage in the most effective way. It can point out an authority using the same system more cheaply *or tackling the same problem* a different way and achieving better cost effectiveness.

One question the Government has been asking is: why don't more councils use this excellent service to compare their performance with other councils?

It might also ask why the district auditor does not make such use of this service a condition of approving council accounts.

A tug of war close to breaking point

THE current clash between Mr. Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, and local councils across the country is only the latest, if most acrimonious, instalment in one of the longest-running arguments in Britain.

For years governments have said that there must be a better way to finance local authorities than the rates, an uneasy compromise at the best of times between the right of councils to raise their own money and the right of central government, which pays half the local bills, to say they are spending too much.

The recession, however, has added a new urgency to attempts to resolve this problem. The current series of financial controls and the ever increasing demand for cuts is bringing Mrs. Thatcher's government time and again into confrontation with local authorities—many of them Tory controlled and whose members help mobilise Tory support in the shires.

The Government argues that councils —

- Spend too much and are jeopardising public expenditure targets;
- Are manpower intensive and inefficient and must be overseen by central government because they are spending £10bn of taxpayers money — the amount that Whitehall gives to local councils:

To which the local authorities reply that—

- They have an extremely good record at meeting spending targets and living within cash limits;
- They have the constitutional right to fix and raise their own rate levels;
- They have had to raise rates sharply because government grants have not kept pace with inflation.

However, the government's attitude is not quite as monolithic as it might seem. The Environment Department remains committed to the principle of local rate raising, until something better can be found but argues that it must have much tighter control of spending levels to prevent excess spending which plays havoc with government financial targets.

(When it became apparent that local authorities were showing projected overspending of £740m, or 5.6 per cent, on this year's revenue account budgets Mr. Michael Heseltine, the Environmental Secretary, apparently sent urgent and strong memoranda to his legal department: "Find me a legal sanction against councils' revenue expenditure." The brief reply came back: "Sorry, there aren't any.")

Treasury civil servants, however, take a much sterner view. They believe that they and not the DoE, should be in control of local spending, that local government is essentially only an arm of central government and that local spending must therefore be subject to exactly the same controls as central government expenditure.

This argument becomes the more forceful the greater the *economic crisis and the tighter* the public sector financial targets. It is also extremely useful to the Treasury when central government starts missing all its own financial targets: local government is the easiest scapegoat to turn to, attack and cut again and thus rein back the overall public expenditure figures.

The Achilles heel of the councils' response to criticism is the issue of manpower and efficiency with wages now accounting for 70 per cent of their bills. It is impossible, as set out above, to know if the myriad services provided are cost effective and value for money.

The councils are, at first sight, on firmer ground when they argue that they have met overall spending targets. But most of the reduction over the past six years has been in capital spending on such items as new schools and houses and it is mostly this which has enabled councils to meet their targets. Still it is true that while overall central government spending has risen by 8 per cent in real terms since 1974, local government spending has fallen 16 per cent.

Formidable problems have also been caused by the change in government and by the Tory Government's refusal to spell out what provision it had made in the last rate support grant for inflation and comparability in wage settlements.

When the Tories came to power, councils which had followed the Labour Government's advice and prepared estimates for 1.6 per cent growth in 1979-80 had to remove that growth and cut by a further 1.45 per cent. For 1980-81 a further reduction of 1 per cent was needed.

The latest Government White Paper shows that a further 2 per cent cut will be needed in 1981-82, 1 per cent in 1982-83 and 1 per cent in 1983-84 on current expenditure. Capital expenditure must fall by about 5 per cent in 1981 as the Government pursues its long term policy of cutbacks. This will be followed by 6 per cent in 1982-1983 and 3 per cent in 1983-84. Councils argue that if capital expenditure falls back much further nothing will be built and not much will be repaired.

In spite of all the protests, it is likely that local authority spending for 1980-81 will turn out to be within 2 per cent of target as it has been for all but one of the past 10 years. It may actually be on target.

Council leaders argue that as their record for keeping to cash limits and hitting targets is so good they should be left alone by the Government to do the job they do well. Their view is that the current attack on local government is illogical.

The Government's view is broadly that of Benjamin Disraeli: "England is not governed by logic. She is governed by Parliament."

MEN AND MATTERS

A premium on the pilot

Still belying his name as he has done throughout his career, General James H. Doolittle, the legendary wartime U.S. Air Force commander, is back in London.

Now 83, Doolittle was busy in the City yesterday inspecting the troops at Mutual of Omaha Insurance for whom he flies as pathfinder in their overseas expansion. The company is about to turn its office here into a fully-fledged subsidiary.

Standing little over five feet, Doolittle brings a sprightly enthusiasm to his task that keeps bigger and younger men on their toes. He's a fitness fanatic who enjoys nothing better than a rough shooting trip into the American outback.

"Being so small, I was the first the other boys whipped at school. I've always had to be fit to survive," he told me.

From biplanes to space rockets, Doolittle's epoch-spanning aviation career has always been interleaved with business. Brought up in Alaska, where his father had joined the gold rush, he enlisted as a cadet in 1917 and in the next decade or so constantly got his name in the record books—first flight across the U.S. in less than 24 hours, first to fly an outside loop, twice holder of world speed records.

He resigned from the air force in 1930 to manage Shell's aviation department. "The rough and tumble of those first years in business were the best training I could have had for wartime command," he said. "I learned more about people, organisation and leadership than I could have done anywhere else."

The USAF recalled him in 1940 and he won renewed fame defiant, retaliatory raid on Tokyo two years later when he led the after Pearl Harbour. Doolittle spent much of the war afterwards in England as commander of the 8th USAF — and won an honorary KCB to go with all his other medals when he went back on the "inactive duty" list.

Inactivity meant a return to Shell — "They didn't know what to do with me so put me on the board as a vice-president"—and a host of government advisory posts, including the chairmanship of NASA's forerunner. "When the space budget rose from $100m to $2bn, I made way for a younger man," he said.

After such an uninsurable life, where else was there for him to turn except the insurance business itself?

"I think it's a complaint about tickets for Wembley."

Splashing out

The Scottish Development Department, I hear from my man in the kilt and skean dhu, is perplexed. Having expended undisclosed quantities of time and public money on a study *of water in Caledonia, it is now* puzzling over a curious set of statistics which show that Scots consume nearly half as much again as the English.

Consumption per head per day is 443 litres, compared with a mere 300 to the south. The rather lame explanations put forward by the department say this drain on the country's most plentiful natural resource is due either to a preponderance of 3-gallon WC cisterns or the leaky state of the nation's plumbing.

A more credible cause, my man suggests, might have some connection with that other liquid consumed in Scotland. Any true Scot will tell you that there is only one acceptable accompaniment to whisky—and that is piped to every home.

Backing bonus

With a respectful and grateful nod towards the "fairy godfathers" who four years ago set up the Association of Business Sponsors of the Arts, Nick Owen has taken over the chair of its executive committee.

A senior partner with chartered surveyor Herring Son and Daw, Owen takes a refreshingly hard-headed view of the role and value of arts sponsorship. His friends and some of his partners, he confesses, were taken aback when he first suggested that his small 100-man firm, should join ABSA. "I am not substantially artistically inclined," he says with more than a hint of understatement. Nor is he keen to be viewed as an old-fashioned patron. "I do it purely as a public relations exercise," he says flatly, "totally commercial."

That is the message he hopes to get across to professional firms, city concerns and the service industries. Ethical constraints, he says, prevent some from taking part. "But even accountants and architects are looking at their rules again. And there are others like ourselves, insurance brokers, stock brokers and chartered secretaries *who have relatively easy* codes of conduct."

Anxious to persuade smaller concerns not to be put off by the might and grand-scale munificence of the founding members—tobacco companies, big banks and the oil groups—he suggests the association may have been "a little bit strong on the patronage side. Perhaps there is room for a change of emphasis."

Money may be short, but, he adds, he does not see the commercial world running out of the need to promote itself. "In my view my firm gets better value for money from sponsorship than from advertising. It is difficult to find proof. There is an element of gut feeling in everything . . . but I hope to be able to measure the column inches that you write." About seven.

Stocking fillers

Leicester's hosiery trade may be a little threadbare at the moment but Standard Chartered Bank believes there is still a bob or two left in the stocking. It has chosen the city for a pilot campaign next week to encourage more British investors to put their money in gold.

Hoping to boost demand for the Krugerrands, sovereigns and the little gold bars it has been marketing in the UK since the start of the year, the bank is making its bid for Leicester's base metal with all the zeal of a latter-day alchemist.

A series of advertisements in the local newspaper will exhort readers to "enter the golden age" and educate them in the attractions of the yellow metal.

The bank may find it difficult to explain that the "golden age" tends to pay off most for bullion buffs if there are enough troubles in the world. But it reckons that *Leicester's* large and gold-conscious population of Indians and Pakistanis will be happy to dabble in the metal.

That explains it

Can it really be true? I am told that seeking to buy a particular brand of lawn mower the other day, a customer was answered with a shrug. "Sorry, sir, that make is out of stock, and there's a waiting list for deliveries because the factory is on short time."

Observer

هكذا من الأصل

SPAIN UNDER SUAREZ

When novelty is not enough

ROBERT GRAHAM in Madrid examines the problems of Spain's Prime Minister and what he must do to regain the goodwill that he enjoyed after his election success in 1979.

THE SPANISH react to their governments with the fickleness of a bull fighting crowd. They expect action. When there is none they quickly become bored: they also switch rapidly from applause and approval to derision. This makes Spain an especially difficult country to govern. Indeed under these circumstances there is only one easy way to operate—a constant willingness to offer novelty, cosmetic or otherwise, which *buys a temporary respite.* In the four years that Sr. Adolfo Suarez has held office as prime minister he has consistently adopted this technique. It has ensured his own survival but at a cost to the country, which has witnessed short periods of action followed by long periods of near paralysis while he agonises over his next move.

When in difficulties, Sr. Suarez has either changed his government—and with the change two weks ago he has now had five government with 58 different ministers; or he has called a general election early, which he did in March, 1979. And last week he employed the new technique of making a declaration of policy in parliament which was then voted on as a confidence motion, won by 180 votes against 164.

But Sr. Suarez' respite may only be temporary. Spain faces serious problems. The death toll in the Basque country is a worrying reminder that extremist separatist elements are still determined to use the gun as a means of negotiation. Regional policy elsewhere in the country—notably in Catalonia and Andalucia—is also in trouble following his 180 degree change in strategy late last year.

And the Government faces the daunting task of coping with a four-year-old recession which is now affecting a very sizeable chunk of the population. By the end of this year the number of people out of work in Spain will probably be 12 per cent of the workforce (1.5m)—the highest percentage in Western Europe.

None of this so far seems to have had much effect on the stream of companies which have chosen to invest in Spain and which are still essentially reacting to the favourable image of the country created by the remarkably peaceful transition from the Franco dictatorship. Spanish entry to the EEC also beckons and most investors are not reconciled to the views of many of Sr. Suarez' critics that his is a government increasingly unable to put its own house in order.

General Motors, for example, is already investing $1.5bn to establish plants to produce 270,000 cars by 1982. Ford already has a major plant in Valencia. International Harvester is close to buying Enasa, the country's leading heavy vehicle producer. And both Nissan and Toyota are sniffing hard at the prospect of either buying into SEAT or setting up on their own. Nissan already has a stake in Motor Iberica.

But before finally judging the new Government and its economic programme it is important to understand why Sr. Suarez has found it necessary to present the country with yet another change. He did, after all, obtain, in March 1979, a relativly convincing endorsement from the electorate to run democratic government. The goodwill from this electroal win both inside his own Union de Centro Democratico (UDC) party and in the country had until earlier this month been largely squandered because of three basic errors.

First, he believed he was strong enough to ignore the various factions within the UCD and so after the elections discarded some of his better qualified ministers in favour of those whose main virtue was their loyalty. He proceeded to ignore the advice of the various factions within the UCD representing principally liberals, social democrats, christian democrats and neo Francoists. He chose to shut himself into the Moncloa Palace, the prime minister's office, listening to a small coterie of friends principal among whom was Sr. Fernando Abril Martorell the outgoing deputy prime minister in charge of economic affairs. This led to increasing friction with the party which was organised round the UCD's executive committee.

Sr. Suarez's opponents in the UCD lost the first battle in May *when he reshuffled his cabinet* to head off discontent; but *rather than silencing his critics* he infuriated them especially those who resented the political influence of Sr. Abril Martorell who was advising Sr. Suarez on all important matters of state. Senior figures within the party began to say more or less openly that Sr. Suarez had served his purpose as the administrator of the transition from the Franco era to a parliamentary democracy; and that as a man trained in the Francoist bureaucracy he was the wrong man to steer the country in the new democratic waters.

The second error committed by Sr. Suarez was his *volte face* on regional policy. No sooner had the Basques and Catalans approved by referendums their autonomy statutes last October than Sr. Suarez decided to reassess his autonomy strategy. Previously the regions were offered autonomy in the hope that there would be a common denominator which would dilute the demands of those areas with strong historical identities, like the Basques and Catalans. However this failed to dilute the demands of either group and at the same time opened a Pandora's Box of requests from other regions which had never really considered autonomy seriously before.

Thus when the Government revealed this January that it would seek to slow down the pace and limit the content of future regional autonomy there was an uproar. The regional parties withdrew their working support from the Government in Parliament and since Sr. Suarez could not govern with just the 166 deputies he could rely on, he could only operate *in* Parliament on a basis of temporary alliances. This effectively reduced his area of manoeuvre and led to a paralysis of government.

Third, Sr. Suarez was so enmeshed in politicking with his own party and the regional issue that he ignored the economy. Precious time was *lost in taking measures to come* to terms with the already serious domestic recession. For instance in August 1979 a Government economic plan was launched aimed at combating unemployment and bringing the country back by 1981 to 4 per cent growth. This plan foundered in part at least because of a lack of will at the top to push it through.

The latest Government economic policy—announced in Parliament last week—was devoid of detail but the Government is expected to fill it out during the next month, using the 1981 budget as its cornerstone. The emphasis is now less on new projects and much more on the implementation of plans already started or which have been hanging fire.

Such plans include the ten-year energy programme approved 14 months ago, a scheme to launch large scale construction of low cost housing, a ten-year railway modernisation programme and perhaps new investment by the National Telephone Company.

Defence has also been singled out for cuts: there is talk of as much as 50 per cent being slashed from the procurement budget. This could affect Britain's negotiations to sell the Rapier missile to Spain which would be the first major British military sale since the Labour Government ban in the 1960s.

Economics and the employers' association, CEOE, have been quick to point out the pitfalls in this strategy.

The principal item in the large Pta 400bn (£2.26bn) public sector deficit this year will be the cost of maintaining Spain's huge bureaucracy. The chances of controlling expenditure in this area are considered slim, as much as anything because civil servants' jobs are virtually inviolate.

There is also a belief that the Government will be obliged to resort to a form of wage restraint to hold down inflation. Wages this year have been pegged to the rate of inflation and have risen just under 16 per cent.

A more serious question mark concerns the ability of these new public sector projects to pull the rest of the economy out of recession. The Spanish public sector accounts for a low proportion of GDP and for instance is under half that of Italy. The Government itself realises that the real impetus must come from the private sector but so far the latter has been extremely wary.

The CEOE in a statement issued at the weekend said it was vital for the government to provide adequate medium and long term finance to reactivate investment.

In Spain's fairly primitive financial system this is a serious complaint and so far efforts at reform have tended to divert more funds into short term credit.

During the recession the principal stimulus to investment has come either from very small companies seeking to expand, particularly towards export markets, or from multi-nationals. GM for example was attracted by the availability of skilled labour at slightly below average European wages, government investment grants, the size of the domestic market and the convenience of a greenfield site within reach of the heart of the EEC.

Sr. Suarez now faces what may be his last chance to restore his credibility. For now there is a general inclination among politicians of all parties to give him the benefit of the doubt because they recognise that it is in no one's interest that he should fail.

But they will be watching to see if he can operate his cabinet more effectively, find an acceptable compromise over regional autonomy and, above all, get the economy under way once again.

He has a workable parliamentary majority after a new change of heart on regional policy which has at least mollified Andalucia. He has now made promises to a host of disparate interest groups and it will be hard for him to satisfy all of them. That is the real political test that now confronts him.

Sr. Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, Spain's deputy Prime Minister with overall economic responsibility and (right) Ford's $462 plant at Valencia.

Sr. Leopoldo Calvo Sortelo comes from one of Spain's best known political families which has close links with both Government and Opposition parties. Aged 52, he trained as an engineer and has experience of business through working for the chemical conglomerate ERT and the Banco Urquijo.

He came to political prominence *when he played an important part in organising* the different centre-right groupings into the Union de Centro Democrato (UCD) to fight the June 1977 elections. Subsequently he became Minister for European Affairs.

Sr. Calvo Sortelo is regarded as a good organiser and likes to *surround himself* with clever technocrats. His close links with banking and industry *ensure support for him* from the private sector. He is extremely ambitious and tends towards arrogance. His critics fault him for an unexceptional record at the ERT and in negotiating with the EEC. But he is considered to be a most capable man *in* co-ordinating the various *economic ministries* and in getting things done.

He is deeply Catholic and *has eight children.*

The garbled sentence at the foot of the first column of yesterday's feature article by Jonathan Carr should have read: "It would be absurd to suggest that anything similar to the Weimar experience is remotely in prospect in the Federal Republic." The error is regretted.

Letters to the Editor

Proportional representation

From Miss Enid Lakeman.

Sir, — Malcolm Rutherford (September 19) is in my opinion wholly right in condemning the attempt to introduce here the West German form of proportional representation, but his grounds for so doing are questionable.

He says that the system has given the small FDP party disproportionate power. That may or may not be true—the matter can be argued at great length—but what surely cannot be argued is that the FDP has "a disproportionate number of seats." *The last election gave* the FDP 7 per cent of the second votes and 7.9 per cent of the seats, the extra 0.9 per cent being due to the exclusion from all representation of smaller parties which failed to reach the 5 per cent threshhold. On what grounds does Mr. Rutherford say that the d'Hondt system of calculating the number of seats a party should have "strongly favours smaller parties?" On the contrary, it tends to give the largest parties slightly more than their proportional share. What does, of course favour small parties is treating the whole country as one constituency for the purpose of calculating list seats.

It would be interesting to know what evidence Mr. Rutherford has for his statement that large numbers of CDU and SPD supporters "give their second vote to the FDP because they do not wish to see either of the two big parties (even their own) win an absolute majority." That may be true (in which case there are at least that number of voters, not themselves FDP supporters, who are deliberately trying to put that party in the balancing position which Mr. Rutherford thinks so dangerous) but how does he know? Those voters might equally well be keen FDP supporters who would give that party their first vote also were it not for the fact that they know their party to have no chance of winning a first-vote seat.

That is one example of the real indictment of the German PR system as compared with our home-grown single transferable vote: it gives proportional representation of the voters' opinions *about* the organised political parties but of absolutely nothing else.

The German system is slightly more personal than the British, since a voter can use his first vote to express personal approval of a candidate without necessarily helping that candidate's party, but the chance that he will thereby affect his candidate's chance of election is remote. By contrast, every Irish front-bencher owes his position to the large number of voters who choose to give him preference over other candidates of the same party. The election giving rise to the present SPD/FDP coalition afforded almost no indication of whether that was the wish of the majority of the voters or not. By contrast the Irish election of 1973 gave incontestable proof that the resulting Fine Gael/Labour coalition was the wish of the majority—since they chose to vote 1, 2, 3 . . . for candidates of the one party and then go on to those of the other *and, where a party's candidate's* had different opinions on the subject, they gave pro-coalition candidates preference over anti-coalition ones. With STV already widely used in this country, it is deplorable that anyone should have thought of introducing the inferior German system.

Enid Lakeman,
Editorial Consultant,
Electoral Reform Society,
6 Chancel Street, SE1.

From Miss Hilary Muggridge

Sir, — Malcolm Rutherford's article about the German Electoral System (September 19), although interesting, was inaccurate in one *important* respect.

Readers may form their own judgment as to whether the German electoral system has provided more stable and representative government than our own. What they should not accept is Mr. Rutherford's statement that the system produces a "disproportional" result. The share of seats of the Liberal FDP in 1969 was 5.8 per cent, in 1972 8.4 per cent and in 1976 7.9 per cent. Their percentage of the 496 voting members of the Bundestag elected in each of those years was 6.0 per cent, 8.3 per cent and 7.8 per cent.

Proportional representation means what its name suggests. Whatever the results of the German election next month, the membership of the Bundestag will be in proportion to the main strands of public opinion in the Federal Republic. An increasing number of people in Britain wish the same was true here.

Hilary Muggridge.
Secretary, National Committee for Electoral Reform,
60, Chandos Place, WC2.

The law's delay

From Mr. A. I. Morris.

Sir,—I write to comment on the Business and Courts article by Mr. A. H. Hermann, September 18. I believe he overstates the reluctance of the profession to accept changes which would improve the efficiency of litigation. The reality is that the Courts are overburdened with cases principally from the non-commercial sector and in particular personal injury cases.

I believe the most annoying and frequent cause of delay in commercial cases is the inability of the Courts to provide early return dates for the hearing of the Interlocutory Summonses necessary to process a case ready for trial. The position is exacerbated when a summons taken out in July is not returnable until October, because of the incidence of long vacation.

Although Mr. Hermann makes valid points regarding the transcription of *judgments* and the use of technology to improve the administration of the Courts, the real problem is that there are insufficient judges and registrars. We constantly pay the price for trying to obtain a legal system on the cheap.

The article also ignores the fact, that the vast majority of cases never come to trial, and that professional advisers constantly strive to achieve sensible and commercial settlements between the parties.

As for the idea of index linking claims as a deterrent to those who abuse the legal process, this is a recipe for further expense and delays and yet even more appeals as to whether such penalties have been properly imposed. So many reasons exist for delays in litigation that to investigate them properly in accordance with the traditions of British justice, would consistently extend the length of trials and take up further valuable judge time. I do not believe that the benefits of such a system would outweigh the very considerable disadvantages.

A. I. Morris,
Brazennose House,
Brazennose Street, Manchester.

Popular apples

From Mr. Thomas F. Mursell

Sir.—There has recently been correspondence about English apples. As a grower I resent the implications that we are sitting on our backsides. There are times when I only wish we could!

Mr. Venables' letter (September 10) was very fair to us. Most of the major markets in this country are now being monitored by growers every day of the working week to maintain the quality of English apples. It is true to say that in previous years we may not have been the most efficient marketing industry, but much effort over the last 12 months is putting this right.

Could I through your columns offer an invitation to Mr. Anderson (September 17) and any others who doubt the efforts we put into our product. Sunday, October 12, is National Apple and Pear Day. Our farm will be open to the public who will be able to see our methods of production and also visit the packhouse where the storage and packing is carried out. I believe anyone seeing this will suddenly realise that fruit growing is not quite as simple as it appears when written on paper. I look forward to meeting you, Mr. Anderson.

Thomas F. Mursell.
Dounhurst Farm,
Wisborough Green,
Billingshurst, Sussex.

Renewal of interest in Maplin

rom Mr. Bernard L. Clark

Sir.—As the originator of the laplin proposal (originally 'oulness) some 30 years ago, I m pleased to see a gathering nterest in Maplin as a result f the "threat" of a third ondon Airport.

Those of your readers, and ideed many others who read y articles and heard my many ctures, will remember that 25 ars ago, I predicted the ttern of industrial decline is country would suffer if Foulness" or the Thames tuary was not developed nilar to "Europoort"—tterdam, which was then fast coming the catalyst for future uropean trade.

It *did not* need a great brain realise that with Holland oviding the deep water port ilities, and Japan building gger and bigger ships, Britain uld gradually lose her place the, then, greatest maritime ion and with it the ociated industrial potential.

predicted both the demise our steel industry and the tor car industry, as with vast land reclamation projects eloping firstly in Holland, n Japan, followed by France l other Eastern countries, we would be outclassed, with our inconveniently placed industrial centres, miles away from any deep water facilities.

The idea of a deep water port in the Thames Estuary was coupled with vast industrial developments, such as steel making, ship building and repair, and motor car manufacture.

All this has now happened in Europe and the Far East, and we are now experiencing the results: We cannot ever hope to regain our former position, but at least we could regain much by emulating Europoort, Le Havre, Dunkirk, Marseilles and Japan by reclaiming much of the Thames Estuary and *creating industrial* and maritime facilities as efficient as our competitors.

Never before, as far as I can discover, was a Government decision overuled by such an overwhelming response to common sense, as when, in Autumn 1967, I flooded the House of Commons and the House of Lords with copies of my *"Third London Airport."* Much of the background to the political infighting is to be found in that admirable book *"Permission to Land"* by Brian Cashinella and Keith Thompson.

The idea of an airport at Foulness (or Maplin) was really only a make-weight to the earlier much larger proposal, but as it seemed public emotion was more roused by the idea of an airport on somebody's doorstep, than their country's destiny, I struck the iron whilst it was hot, and the whole project gained enormous interest almost overnight.

Unfortunately, in this country, all large projects are vested in the Government, which at best, lasts only five years, so plans for development are usually scheduled to last at most three years, assuming agreement is reached in the first place.

How can we ever do anything "big" any more, we just blame everything on bad labour performance, instead of looking for the reasons why our competitors can out-price us?

Compared with the continent, where a 30 year plan was generally agreed between nations, soon after the war, for a general increase in standards of communication, mostly water, where raw materials are handled in massive quantities with little labour, we have allowed industry to be appeased by individual opportunists, such as the motor hauliers who, seeing their opportunity, have indirectly caused us to build miles of motorway, whilst our 300 ports arranged around our whole island have gradually decayed, simply because we had no Main Port Catalyst, to create the need for coastal traffic.

Once London was our catalyst, and the world's largest ships could operate from there, hence the great commercial build up around London and the South East, where a third of our population resides. Now we have no catalyst, and small-minded people cannot appreciate the magnitude of the Maplin proposal, and are satisfied to see their country gradually decay, because we cannot compete.

I *predicted* three million unemployed by the 1980s, and I am sure this will be the pattern as we now, simply, do not have sufficient heavy industry left to keep them employed.

Bernard L. Clark,
Bernard L. Clark and Partners,
13, Willow Lane,
Mitcham, Surrey

Today's Events

GENERAL

UK: Mr. Mark Carlisle, Education Secretary, addresses Headmasters' conference, Edinburgh.

Sir Alex Jarratt, Reed International chairman, and Sir Leslie Murphy, former NEB chairman, are among speakers at seminar on a strategy for industrial peace and progress, Institute of Directors, London.

Trades Union Congress general council meets, London.

Clean Air conference discusses noise, and pollution from road vehicles, Bournemouth.

Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers leaders discuss merger of three of its four sections.

British Institute of Management seminar on opportunities for recovery, Goodwood House, Sussex.

London Chamber of Commerce conference on opportunities for export of medical services and equipment to Africa and Middle East.

Overseas: Mrs. Margaret Thatcher arrives in Belgrade at start of official visit to Yugoslavia (to September 26).

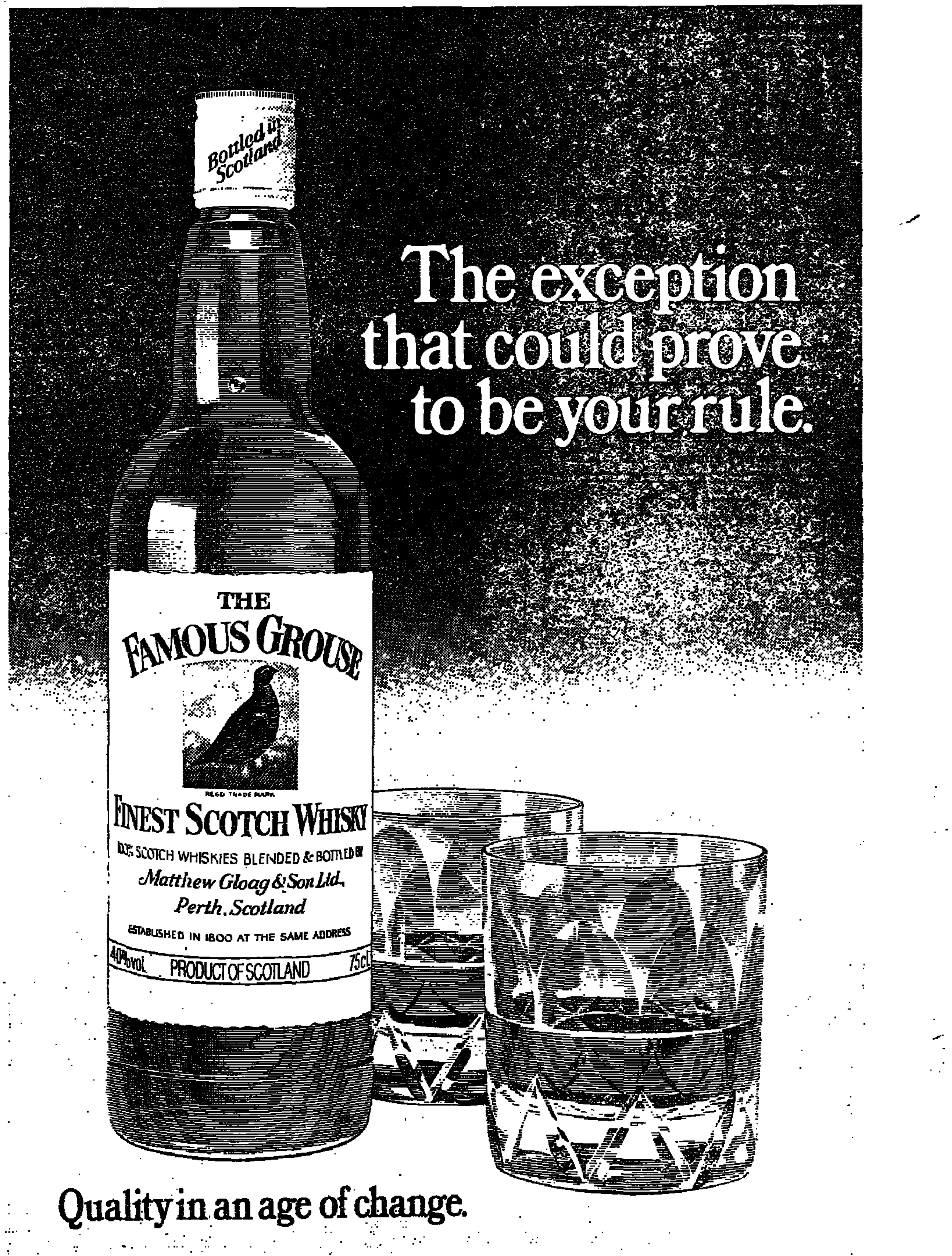
Congressional hearings open on a new moratorium on foreign bank takeovers in the U.S., Washington.

COMPANY MEETINGS

Ailsa Investment Trust, 216 West George Street, Glasgow, 12.30. Allied Colloids, Cleckheaton Road, Low Moor, Bradford, 12.30. Black Arrow, 748 London Road, Hounslow, Middx., 2. W. and J. Glossop, Amisfield House, Hipperholme, Halifax, 11. Hallite, Kempton Manor, Kempton Park, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex, 12. Joseph Stocks, 57 Stanley Road, Whitefield, Manchester, 11. Tyne Plywood, Kingsway, Team Valley, Gateshead, 10.30. Wearwell, 101 Commercial Road, E., 12.

COMPANY RESULTS

Final dividends: Armstrong Equipment. Ben Bailey Construction. Dowding and Mills. Ferry Pickering Group. Marler Estates. Mills and Allan International. Ricardo Consulting Engineers. **Interim dividends:** Alva Investment Trust. Astbury and Madeley (Holdings). Crosby House Group. W. and J. Glossop. Grattan Warehouses. Hugh Mackay. Manders (Holdings). Rowan and Boden. Sunlight Service Group. George Wills and Sons (Holdings). **Interim figures:** BAT Industries. Cakebread Robey.



Bank of Scotland edges ahead at interim stage

OPERATING PROFITS of the **Bank of Scotland** rose 7.3 per cent from £19.11m to £20.5m for the half year to August 31, 1980. But after including lower associates' contributions of £0.39m, against £1.28m, the pre-tax surplus of £20.88m showed a more modest increase of 2.4 per cent over the corresponding period last year.

Following the decision to change the arrangement for funding payments to the bank's pension scheme, comparative figures have been adjusted to reflect a proportionate share of the whole year's payments to the scheme.

The directors say the current year's outcome will be influenced by the level of interest rates but, in the absence of spectacular movements, they anticipate that group full-year profits will not differ much from last year's £40.64m.

The 1979-80 full-time figure was after an end-of-year allocation of £1.65m to the staff profit sharing scheme. This allocation appears wholly in the second half of each year as it arises only on consideration of the year's results.

Tax for the six months was lower at £7.39m (£9.17m) and after extraordinary credits up from £26,000 to £628,000, attributable profits climbed from £11.24m to £14.12m.

Earnings per £1 share improved by 6.8p to 41.6p and the interim dividend is up over 10 per cent to 8p (7.25p) net costing £2.6m (£2.34m)—the final last time was 7.75p.

On a current cost basis, using SSAP 16 modified in respect of a monetary working capital adjustment, adjusted pre-tax profits came out at £10.9m (£10.86m) for the half year.

This was after adjustments for monetary working capital of £6.65m (£7.43m), depreciation of £2.64m (£1.44m), less gearing of £3,000 (£2,000), but including associates' share of £0.7m (£0.66m).

Provisions for bad debt were up from £2.74m to £4.09m. Of this, £2.14m (£0.98m) was for special provision, with the balance of £1.95m (£1.77m) for general provision.

Profits of the clearing bank increased from £15.7m to £17.5m, with net interest earnings having shown steady growth arising largely from the employment of a greater volume of resources as well as higher interest rates.

The improvement was, however, curtailed by minimal growth in current account balances so that higher funds employed came from interest-earning deposits.

Service charges and other commissions have shown a steady increase but this was far exceeded by the rise in costs, mainly attributable to staff salaries.

North West Securities' profits were substantially lower at £1.7m (£3.8m) due mainly to the higher cost of funding the business, while in addition, the contribution from associates was much lower than last time.

The other major subsidiary, British Linen Bank, increased profits from £0.9m to £1.7m, arising from significant development in all areas of the merchant bank's business.

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Sandhurst increase at midterm

TAXABLE profits of **Sandhurst Marketing**, manufacturer of stationery and chemical products, expanded from £220,000 to £246,000 in the six months July 31, 1980 on turnover of £3.51m against £2.77m.

The interim dividend is effectively *raised from 0.585p to 0.6435p net*: Mr. B. D. Hulme, chairman, says the board feels this payment should err on the side of caution in the present economic situation, but he is still confident of a good profit for the year. Last year an adjusted total of 1.755p was paid from pre-tax profits of £507,000.

The first-half results are especially encouraging, says the chairman, in view of the effects on production of moving the *chemical factory, together with* the tandem running costs of two factories for February, March and April.

The surplus also reflects an £81,000 increase in interest charges, partly due to the delay in processing regional development grant claims.

After tax of £14,000 (£44,000), representing ACT written off, there was an extraordinary credit this time of £109,000, lifting the available surplus to £341,000 (£176,000).

The extraordinary credit comprises £112,000 from the sale of the business of The Art Shop and £24,000 from the disposal of the Haywards Heath premises, less the net cost after grants of the factory removal.

Earnings per 10p share are shown as 4.66p against an adjusted 3.53p. The interim dividend absorbs £45,780.

● comment

Sandhurst remains confident that it can hit its earlier turnover and profits targets. The sale of The Art Shop will reduce the initial sales £7.6m projection by about £250,000 but there is little apparent need to cut the mooted £650,000 pre-tax target by much, if at all. That places a heavy responsibility on the growth in the stationery and office supplies division since the leather business has weakened considerably (although it usually incurs a first half loss) and Spectra's move to *Newquay has proved more costly* than anticipated. First half profits were eliminated although the car care chemicals business is reported to have returned to profits last month. Debt should come down on the eventual receipt of development and removal grants, some £286,000 is owing, and there is a reasonable level of support from a prospective fully taxed p/e of 7.2 with room to boost the historic yield of 5.5. The final quarter, as ever, will be crucial.

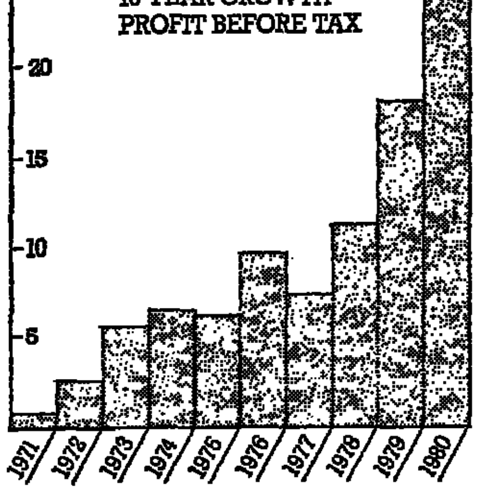
Blue Circle—merger probe decision soon

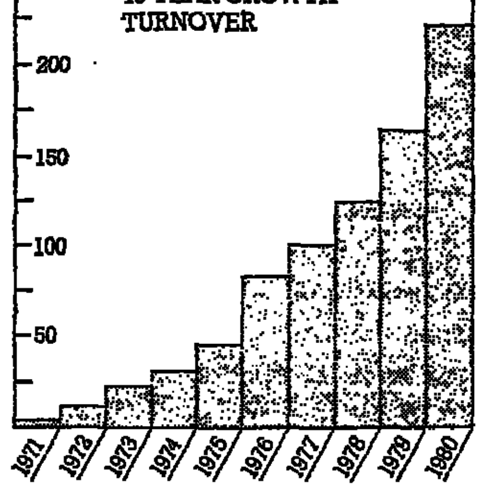
Blue Circle expects to hear within the next week or so whether it has the official go-ahead for its bid for **Armitage Shanks** the sanitaryware company.

Sir Rowland Wright, Blue Circle's chairman, has already said that the group intends to press ahead with its bid for the company if it receives clearance from the Monopolies Commission.

Meanwhile, Blue Circle said yesterday that its shareholders had taken up 91.1 per cent of the 16.2m shares offered in the group's £48.6m rights issue, managed by Baring Brothers. Armitage shares gained 6½p yesterday to 112p, while Blue Circle added 2p to 354p.

RAYBECK (retailer and manufacturer of ladie's and men's wear)—Results for year ended April 26, 1980 with prospects reported Sept. 6. Shareholders' funds £29.11m (£27.27m). Cash at bank and on deposit £11.65m (£405,000); bank overdrafts nil £2 03m); bank loan £5m (£6m). Meeting, Savoy Hotel, WC, Oct. 13, noon.





HIGHLIGHTS

It was a mixed day for banking results with **Kleinwort Benson** riding high on the strength of bullion trading in the first half and profits are substantially higher. But at the **Bank of Scotland** rising costs have largely eroded benefits of higher interest rates and better lending volume and interim pre-tax profits are little changed from the levels achieved in the preceding two half years. Elsewhere **Lex** considers the possible impact of the new tax concessions on the development of the traded options market and discusses why **Barratt Developments** has apparently been able to side step the effects of the recession in the housing market. **Lex** also briefly comments on the **Fiat** rights issue. On the inside pages insurance broker **Stewart Wrightson** has produced figures below expectations and profits at **John Menzies** are more than halved.

Kleinwort Benson ahead in half year

Kleinwort, Benson, Lonsdale announces group profits for the six months to June 30, 1980, are substantially higher than those for the corresponding period of the previous year.

The banking and investment trust concern which also has interests in off-shore oil says that while there has been an overall improvement throughout the group, the level of profits achieved by the bullion dealing subsidiary Sharps Pixley has been exceptional.

The interim dividend is increased from 2.5p to 3p net. Last time a final of 4p was paid from taxable profits of £3.54m.

Assets at June 30 this year totalled £2.84bn against £2.39bn at December 31 last year, as shown in the table.

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Interim payments in prospect at Herrburger

After the past year's record sales and earnings and the 20 per cent increase in the annual dividend, the directors of **Herrburger Brooks**, Nottingham-based makers of piano actions, keys and hammers, will, if trading conditions improve, consider the possibility of introducing interim dividends.

Mr. J. Campbell Ritchie, chairman, confirming this in his annual review, says that the results for the past year with the increase of 24.78 per cent in earnings after tax should not be taken to imply a comparable advance in the coming year.

The directors recognise that the country is entering a period of widespread depression with inflation continuing at a high rate and having reviewed the results for the year have concluded that a sound level of cash retention is required to support operating capability over the difficult period ahead.

As reported, pre-tax profit rose from £270,240 to a record £397,944 for the year ended May 31, 1980, on a 14.3 per cent increase in sales which at £5.6m exceeded £5m for the first time. The annual dividend is lifted from 2.1p to 2.52p per 25p share.

Keyboard sales continue to increase, the chairman says. Sales revenues on keyboards was 23.9 per cent up on 1979 with plastic keyboard sales increasing their share of total revenue by 2.47 per cent and ivory keys by 0.89 per cent. The action parts and assembled action sales remain at 47 per cent of revenue.

Cash resources during the year were used to finance capital investment of £212,333. Raw material stocks have now been built up to an acceptable operational level following shortages experienced last year because of fire damage.

The ultimate holding company is Kimball International, of the U.S. *Meeting, Nottingham,* October 9, at noon.

Harris and Sheldon downturn

DESPITE increased turnover of *£24.51m, compared with £22.54m* last time, pre-tax profits of **Harris and Sheldon Group** fell from £1.5m to £1.23m for the six months to June 30, 1980. Tax took *£638,000 against £778,000.*

Stated earnings per 25p share dropped from 1.81p to 1.48p. The interim dividend is held at 1.25p net—last year total dividends of 3p were paid from pre-tax profits of £4.52m.

Evans Lifts, a member of the Harris and Sheldon Group, has acquired the assets and goodwill of **Hunter Garrett**. Evans Lifts will continue to supply and service on a national basis the Hunter range of dock levellers, lift tables and related products.

LMS to expand oil and gas exploration interests

WHILE the short term effect of servicing oil exploration and development expenditure must be to curtail current earnings of **London Merchant Securities**, the longer term benefits favour the further expansion of these interests as a major activity of the group, Lord Rayne, chairman, tells shareholders.

The major North Sea development and exploration involvement through Century Power and Light is being supplemented by additional investment in a range of North Sea and North American oil and gas exploration enterprises with oil industry and institutional associates.

In the property field, valuable lettings have been concluded, substantial rental increases established, important new developments started and strategic holdings acquired, the chairman says.

While no independent property valuation has been undertaken this year, a detailed assessment by the company's professional staff has established the value of the group's investment, development and trading property as being substantially higher than the relevant book figures.

It also remains the case that the value of the Century Power and Light holding and that of the investments in listed securities—including Carlton Industries—greatly exceeds the amount at which they appear in the accounts.

At the Angel, Islington, formal planning approval for the new complex was duly received and *subsequent modifications to the* design have produced material improvements and an increased gross area of 235,000 square feet. Construction works are now under way and completion is expected in mid-1982.

United Newspapers falls by over 43% to £2.4m

A PRINTING dispute earlier *this year has resulted in taxable* profits of **United Newspapers** tumbling by 43.8 per cent to £2.4m in the half year to end-June, 1980. In the comparable period last year the company earned a record £4.28m.

The chairman, Lord Barnetson, says the dispute came to a head towards the end of last April when all the company's newspapers and almost all of its commercial printing activities were *brought to a standstill.*

As a result, he says, the company suffered very heavily in terms of lost revenue and continuing overheads.

The situation was aggravated during the latter part of the period under review by a significant and continuing drop in the volume of classified advertising—the result of rising unemployment, short-time working and the general recession.

Since then, the chairman warns, the trading climate has got worse and the outlook for the year as a whole is unpromising.

However, the interim dividend is being effectively maintained at 4.5p net after allowing for the one-for-one scrip issue. Last time a final equal to 7.5p was paid from pre-tax profits of £8.19m.

Turnover during the six months increased from £32.73m to £35.68m but trading profit, after all expenses including depreciation, dropped to £1.78m, compared with £3.97m.

Attributable profit amounted to £1.11m, against £2.01m, after investment income of *£621,000* (£314,500). The interim dividend absorbed £655,630 (£617,700).

The group pre-tax profit for 1979 has been increased by £13,400 as a result of the change of accounting policy for government grants.

● comment

United Newspapers had a strong first quarter—but then came the NGA dispute, which cost it something like £2m. That has been followed by a weaker trend in advertising volume, especially on the classified side. But the down*turn does* not sound too dramatic at this stage, and the strong pound has left newsprint costs pretty well unchanged in the first half. Meanwhile the magazines *(7 per cent of last year's* profits) are doing well, and high interest rates have boosted investment income. A lot depends on the seasonally important final quarter: meanwhile the shares yield nearly 9 per cent at 198p, and are supported by a well covered dividend and a strong balance sheet.

DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED

		Current payment	Date of payment	Corresponding div.	Total for year	Total last year
AB Electronic		4.5	—	4.5	7.5	7
Amber Day		1.96‡	Nov. 19	1.96	2.86‡	2.8
Aurora	int.	1.55	Dec. 1	1.55	—	6.16
Bank of Scotland	int.	8	Nov. 3	7.25	—	15
Barratt Dvlps.		8.85	—	7.36	12.35	10.26
Copydex	int.	Nil	—	1	—	3
Elbar Indstrl.	int.	1	Nov. 11	4	—	10
Harris Sheldon	int.	1.25	Nov. 6	1.25	—	3
Kleinwort Benson	int.	3	Nov. 17	2.5	—	6.5
John Menzies	int.	*2.5*	*Jan. 7*	2	—	6
Sandhurst	int.	0.64	Oct. 30	0.59*	—	1.76*
Stag Furniture	int.	1.75	Nov. 21	1.75*	—	5*
Stewart Wrightson	int.	3.85	Nov. 10	3.85	—	12
Tor Investment		4.9	Nov. 6	4.38	8.4§	6.7
Utd. Newspapers	int.	4.5	Nov. 13	4.5*	—	12*

Dividends shown pence per share net except where otherwise stated.

* Equivalent after allowing for scrip issue. † On capital increased by rights and/or acquisition issues. ‡ After scrip issue and *consolidation*. § Including bonus of 0.7p.

Aurora down £0.5m so far and expects worse for second half

THE EFFECTS of the steel strike and a three-fold increase in interest charges have pushed taxable profits of **Aurora Holdings**, engineer, back to £2.06m for the first half of 1980, compared with £2.61m.

The rate of order intake has deteriorated rapidly and present forecasts for the remainder of the second half are poor, says Mr. Robert Atkinson, chairman. He *warns* that the first-half performance will not be repeated.

The inclusion of the Edgar Allen Balfour group lifted interim trading profits from £3.17m to £5.36m, but interest charges jumped £2.38m to £3.4m, reflecting the high level of borrowings in Balfour and the increased borrowings incurred in acquiring the group. Sales rose £36.85m to £74.89m.

The group has raised about £2.2m by the sale of certain sub*sidiaries whose activities fall out*side its mainstream interests. The companies disposed of—British Rema, Osborn (Zambia), Edgar Allen Tools, Darwins *Magnets International and* Darwins Alloy Castings—contributed profits of £239,000 to the group accounts last year.

Edgar Allen Tools has been bought by WGI for £1.03m, satisfied by the issue of 962,617 ordinary shares. The net tangible assets being acquired amounted to £1.32m at December 31, 1980 and the pre-tax profit for the preceding nine months was £81,283.

Aurora's cash flow has also been improved by property sales in excess of £500,000, and the chairman says there are still some valuable properties available for disposal.

The interim dividend is maintained at 1.55p—last year's total was 6.16p, paid from pre-tax profits *of £3.8m.*

The steel rationalisation plans have been accelerated, states the chairman; activities at Bradford are being transferred to Openshaw and those of the other six works are being consolidated into three.

This and the closure, announced in early September, of two loss-making Balfour subsidiaries, Easicut Tools and Yorkshire Aluminium, will result in high extraordinary costs for the year, he adds, but substantial long-term benefits will be achieved. There is an extraordinary debit for the first six months of £529,000.

Earnings per 25p share are shown as 4.98p (9.31p) on a net basis, and 5.64p (9.31p) on a nil basis.

● comment

Aurora has maintained the interim dividend but the historic yield of 21.7 per cent on offer as the shares sank 6p yesterday to a new annual low of 42p is asking not whether the final will be cut, but, rather, by how much. *The outlook is not good.* Volume is down by over a tenth and, despite constant belt-tightening there is little the group can do to reduce its high debt levels. EAB, for example, has seen the contribution at the trading profit level more than undone after debt servicing charges. Aurora's response has been to bring forward the rationalisation programme. The workforce is to fall by 18 per cent this year with 1,000 jobs lost in the first half followed by the announcement of a further 350 redundancies since June. There is a clear indication that the post-April recession sounded the *death knell for certain* businesses which had been running losses quite significantly while benefits of cost cutting generally and the concentration of special steel production at Openshaw and finishing at Ecclesfield in particular must now be postponed for some considerable time. The institutions, which have backed the group through its years of high growth and supported its vigorous plans for special steel integration, obviously cannot abandon ship at current prices but the wait for recovery after what should be a very poor second half will almost certainly be protracted and probably nerve-wracking.

Amber Day profits down

AFTER EXCEPTIONAL trading debits of £344,000, **Amber Day Holdings**, clothing manufacturer and retailer, *reports pre-tax* profits down from £1.8m to £710,000 in the year ended May 3, 1980 on turnover of £30.66m, compared with £26.13m.

The directors say indifferent trading conditions together with costs incurred in adjusting to changed circumstances have caused the disappointing results and trading conditions since the year-end continue to be difficult.

Earnings per share are stated as 3.54p, against 8.61p. The final dividend is 1.9625p making a total of 2.8625p on capital increased by a one-for-one scrip issue and consolidation of the shares from 10p to 20p. Last year's total on 10p shares was 2.8p.

The exceptional trading debits comprise a £143,000 loss at a subsidiary export company *which has ceased trading and* £201,000 losses during reorganisation of the ladieswear retail activities. The turnover included pre-acquisition turnover of subsidiaries amounting to £466,000 (£2.68m).

The group's liquidity is satisfactory, the directors say and has enabled them to see ahead from a position of strength and with medium and long term prospects in mind, have recently arranged the acquisition of six retail units in Kingston-upon-Thames, Southampton, Bristol, Birmingham, Brighton and Maidstone.

	Year 1979-80 £000	1978-79 £000
Turnover	30,663	26,131
Exceptnl. trading items	344	—
Profit before tax	710	1,802
Tax	22	422
Net profit	688	1,380
Extraordinary credit	24	—
Minorities	53	25
Pre-acquisition profits	—	252
Attributable	659	1,103
Dividends	538	412
Retained	121	691
Off acquisition	352	483
Forward	675	906

The group has also bought a 75 per cent interest in Algagrove, *a clothing manufacturer*, for £279,000 with a further sum to be paid depending on operational results over the next five years.

Exclusive arrangements have also been made with Barbara Hulanicki for her designs to be retailed and marketed worldwide.

The board is satisfied that the group's sound financial position will enable it to resume steady growth as soon as economic conditions return to normal.

The group's balance sheet shows shareholders' funds up from £4.32m to £6.27m and net *current assets of* £2.96m (£2.66m). Marketable securities amounted to £463,000 (nil), and bank and cash balances were £514,000 (£118,000) and partly secured medium term liabilities reduced from £1.55m to £981,000.

Mixed trend showing at Peerless

BOTH THE plastics and metals divisions of Peerless are currently doing well in difficult conditions, says chairman Mr. William Jordan in his first annual statement since the Birmingham-based group became public in May.

But electronics and domestic engineering are relatively severely affected by the recession.

Mr. Jordan and his colleagues have complete confidence in the future of peerless. He is sure that when normal trading patterns return the group will be well placed to take maximum advantage thereof.

As announced on August 29, group turnover rose from £26.94m to £31.7m and pre-tax profit from £3.13m to £3.53m for the year ended March 31, 1980.

The plastics side increased profits and turnover by 20 per cent and 31 per cent to £1.18m and £6.52m respectively; electronics profits were up by 113 per cent to £970,000 on virtually unchanged turnover of £4.87m; domestic engineering (water fit*tings and kitchen furniture)* slightly reduced its contribution to £1.04m on turnover 12 per cent up to £9m; and metals raised profits by 22 per cent to £1.59m on turnover 16 per cent higher at £13.4m.

Exports rose more than 2½ times from £248,194 to £635,963. A revaluation of freehold properties has resulted in a surplus of £1.84m.

Meeting, Sutton Coldfield, on October 20.

BPB INDUSTRIES

BPB Industries has decided that the outstanding £178,258 of 7¾ per cent convertible unsecured loan stock 1989-94 will be compulsorily converted or repaid on October 31.

BASE LENDING RATES

A.B.N. Bank	16 %	■ Hambros Bank	16 %
Allied Irish Bank	16 %	■ Hill Samuel	§16 %
American Express Bk.	16 %	C. Hoare & Co.	†16 %
Amro Bank	16 %	Hongkong & Shanghai	16 %
Henry Ansbacher	16 %	Industrial Bk. of Scot.	16½ %
A P Bank Ltd.	16 %	Keyser Ullmann	16 %
■ Arbuthnot Latham	16 %	Knowsley & Co. Ltd.	18 %
Associates Cap. Corp.	16 %	Langris Trust Ltd.	16 %
Banco de Bilbao	16 %	Lloyds Bank	16 %
Bank of Credit & Cmce.	16 %	Edward Manson & Co.	17 %
Bank of Cyprus	16 %	Midland Bank	16 %
Bank of N.S.W.	16 %	■ Samuel Montagu	16 %
Banque Belge Ltd.	16 %	■ Morgan Grenfell	16 %
Banque du Rhone et de la Tamise S.A.	16½ %	National Westminster	16 %
Barclays Bank	16 %	Norwich General Trust	16 %
Bremar Holdings Ltd.	17 %	P. S. Refson & Co.	16 %
Brit. Bank of Mid. East	16 %	Rossminster	16 %
■ Brown Shipley	16 %	Ryl. Bk. Canada (Ldn.)	16 %
Canada Perm't Trust	17 %	Schlesinger Limited	16 %
Cayzer Ltd.	16 %	E. S. Schwab	16 %
Cedar Holdings	16 %	Security Trust Co. Ltd.	17 %
■ *Charterhouse Japhet*	16 %	Standard Chartered	16 %
Choulartons	16 %	Trade Dev. Bank	16 %
C. E. Coates	16 %	Trustee Savings Bank	16 %
Consolidated Credits	16 %	Twentieth Century Bk.	16 %
Co-operative Bank	*16 %	United Bank of Kuwait	16 %
Corinthian Secs.	16 %	Whiteaway Laidlaw	16½ %
The Cyprus Popular Bk.	16 %	Williams & Glyn's	16 %
Duncan Lawrie	16 %	Wintrust Secs. Ltd.	16 %
Eagil Trust	16 %	Yorkshire Bank	16 %
E. T. Trust Limited	16 %		
First Nat. Fin. Corp.	19 %		
First Nat. Secs. Ltd.	19 %		
Robert Fraser	16 %		
Antony Gibbs	16 %		
Greyhound Guaranty	16 %		
Grindlays Bank	‡16 %		
■ Guinness Mahon	16 %		

■ Members of the Accepting Houses Committee.
* 7-day deposits 14%. 1-month deposits 14¼%.
† 7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under 14%, up to £50,000 14½% and over £50,000 15%.
‡ Call deposits over £1,000 14%.
§ Demand deposits 14½%.

Loss for Celtic Haven

WITH TURNOVER down from £1.9m to £1.46m **Celtic Haven**, formerly Little Haven Farms, incurred a pre-tax loss of £282,401 *in the year* to March 31, 1980, compared with a profit of £70,604 in the previous 12 months.

There is again no dividend—the last payment was in 1978 when 0.323p net was paid.

At the interim stage, when pre-tax losses were up from £3,231 to £159,715, Mr. Matt Sheppard, the chairman, said that the sale of the group's remaining farms was expected to provide a surplus that would more than offset losses.

The board reports now that the loss for the year arises principally as a result of the absence of a major marine contract in the engineering business and the complete lack of oil exploration in the Celtic Sea.

Since the year end the company's farm has been sold for a net surplus, after provision for *capital gains tax, of £290,000.* Further provisions for writing down other assets are estimated at £100,000 net, leaving a net capital surplus of £190,000.

A tax credit of £132,206, against a £28,745 charge, reduces the net loss to £150,195 (£41,859 profit). A loss of 3p per 5p share replaces earnings of 84p in the previous year.

Current trading losses are at a much reduced level following repayment of the medium-term loan and bank overdrafts, the board states.

The company is a marine *engineer, steel fabricator,* supplier of ancillary services to the Celtic Sea off-shore oil industry and constructor of pontoon barges.

Smurfit offshoot to pay $5.4m in settlement

A SETTLEMENT agreed by **Alton Box Board Company**, a subsidiary of the Irish packaging *group, **Jefferson Smurfit**, with* respect to the corrugated container class action litigation has received preliminary court approval in Illinois. It is subject to final count approval to be set for hearing at a later date.

Alton paid $5.4m (£2.25m) in settlement of the case, of which $1.6m (£670,000) was paid on July 15, and the balance of which is payable in two equal annual instalments.

The settlement was entered into to avoid the continuing substantial expense of litigation and to resolve the uncertainties and risk of trial.

Its financial effect will be reflected in the third quarter results ending September 30, 1980 as an extraordinary charge of $3.96m, net of tax.

Jefferson Smurfit said the cost of the settlement was within the reserve set aside for this liability and would not affect its earnings as the matter arose before Smurfit acquired majority control of Alton Box.

Yearlings unchanged

The interest rate on this week's batch of local authority yearlings is unchanged at 14 per cent. The bonds are issued at par, for redemption on September 30, 1981.

The issues are: City of Manchester (£1.5m); Maldon DC (£0.5m); Lothian Regional Council (£1m); South Bucks DC (£0.25m); Birmingham DC (£1.5m); Stirling DC (£0.5m); East Hants. DC (£0.5m); Wokingham DC (£0.75m); London Borough of Lewisham (£2.5m); Merseyside CC (£0.5m); Trafford BC (£0.25m); Epping Forest D (£1m); Corporation of London (£1m); London Borough of Barnet (£1m); Cambridge CC (£0.5m); City of Newcastle upon Tyne (£1m); City of Bath (£0.5m).

Equity & Law Managed Funds

Total funds under management of **Equity and Law Managed Funds** advanced by 34 per cent in the year to July 9, 1980, to just under £100m. The company, a subsidiary of Equity and Law Life Assurance Society, offers pension fund investment management through the *medium of five pooled funds.*

The value of the mixed fund, the largest of the five funds, moved from £59m to £75m during the year with the unit price rising by 17.8 per cent. During the year the managers directed most of the new money into long-dated high yielding gilts, so that the proportion of the port folio held in equities dropped from 64 per cent to 60 per cent and fixed interest holdings advanced from 34 per cent to 36.5 per cent.

The market value of the property fund advanced from £10.4m to £14.2m over the year with the unit price rising by 22.3 per cent. At the end of the year the fund was spread 35.5 per cent in shops, 31 per cent industrials, 28.4 per cent offices and 5 per cent in cash. The managers *expect that in the short term the* recession is likely to slow down the meteoric rise in rents achieved in recent years. But in the long term they expect the strong demand for property investments to continue.

The fixed interest fund also had a successful year more than doubling in value from £2.96m to £6.17m, with the unit price rising by 24.4 per cent. The equity fund started in October, 1979, recorded a 30 per cent rise in unit price since inception

The managers are recommending clients to spread their investments in the proportions 70 per cent mixed fund, 20 per cent property fund and 10 per cent

Stag halved midway and expects difficult year

A SHARP deterioration in trading conditions in the second quarter has left mid-year taxable profits of **Stag Furniture Holdings** at half the level of the corresponding period in 1979.

The surplus for the 26 weeks to June 27, 1980, fell from £1.69m to £844,000 on virtually static sales of £14.9m (£14.89m).

While trading is expected to remain difficult for the rest of the year, says Mr. P. V. Radford, chairman, the group is maintaining its share of the market, has a strong financial position and is poised to benefit immediately from any improvement.

First-half earnings, after tax of £196,000 (£285,000) are shown down from 17.5p to 7.7p. Preference dividends take £52,000 (same), leaving an attributable profit of £596,000 (£1.35m), of which the effectively maintained interim dividend of 1.75p again absorbs £135,000. Last year's final was an adjusted 3.25p, paid from 12 months' profit of £3.35m. Comparative figures have been restated.

The chairman says the market downturn, which came after a reasonably satisfactory first quarter, was particularly severe for the lower-priced product ranges, and demand continued to weaken until mid-year. Although sales have been maintained in monetary terms, there has been a reduction in volume, he adds.

● comment

Halved profits from Stag appear to have caught the market wrong footed, but the company's problems are no different to the rest of the sector. Crudely Stag's sales can be split 50:50 between upmarket and downmarket furniture. Meredew is at the top end, Avalon at the bottom and Stag Cabinet has feet in both camps but with a bias towards the upper end. It is the cheaper ranges which have seen the most problems. Demand has fallen and intense competition has put margins under severe pressure. Even the top lines are not insulated from the realities of the recession though the impact is nowhere near as great. There has been no major surgery yet though natural wastage and a few redundancies have reduced the cost base to an extent. The question now is whether furniture manufacturers are over the worst. The second quarter took the brunt of retailer destocking—official figures show that deliveries were 23.6 per cent down on the comparable quarter—and there are signs now of some steadying in demand. But the trend is not strong enough to herald a recovery and profits for the year will probably be no more than £1.7m. At 73p, down 6p, the fully taxed p/e is 7.8 and the yield (maintained dividend) is 10 per cent—a reasonable rating for what is one of the best in the sector.

Tor Trust advances to £420,000

Net revenue of the **Tor Investment Trust** for the year to July 31, 1980, increased from £314,702 to £419,897 after a tax charge of £235,296, compared with £171,970 last time.

The net asset value per 25p income share rose from 59.4p to 66.96p and per 25p capital share from 239.08p to 317.92p.

Directors have recommended a final dividend on income shares of 4.9p plus a bonus of 0.7p, making a total of 8.4p net compared with 6.72p last year. On capital shares, a final dividend of 0.77p (0.67p) plus a bonus of 0.07p has been recommended.

The board has recommended the bonus dividends in view of the high level of income from deposits and the special dividends in respect of earlier years received during the year.

LASMO PAYMENT

The payment on the oil production stock in respect of **London and Scottish Marine Oil's** share of production from the Ninian Field for the six months ended June 30, 1980 will be made on October 31 at a rate of 32.3552p per unit.

Pict raises £3.76m by rights issue

Pict Petroleum is raising *£3.76m by way of a rights issue* of 1.5m shares on the basis of one new share at 260p for every three held.

The new capital is to be used to expand and develop the company's interests in the North Sea and North America. Pict, whose shares were introduced for trading last May under Stock Exchange Rule 163(3), has direct participations in 11 blocks in the North Sea and is participating in groups applying for licences on blocks in five separate areas in the seventh round.

Pict's income base is its 20.6 per cent interest in Drummond Holdings, a Canadian company. Following a revaluation in July of Drummond's reserves, Pict's share of Drummond's net asset value was $14.5m.

Pict has not paid dividends since incorporation in 1971 and does not expect to in the near future. Of the £1.1m of net cash available at October 31, 1979, about half remains, following a £340,000 investment in Drummond, a £200,000 outlay on drilling in the North Sea and repayment of £62,500 in dollar loans. Borrowings as at September 5 were U.S. dollar loans equivalent to £679,300.

Shares in the rights issue are offered to shareholders on the register on September 17 and expire on October 14. The issue has been underwritten by Noble rossart. Brokers to the issue are Wood, Mackenzie.

John Menzies falls to £0.61m

AS FORESHADOWED by Mr. John M. Menzies, the chairman, at the AGM in May, profits of **John Menzies (Holdings)** fell in the half year to August 2, 1980.

Despite turnover rising during the period from £103.22m to £126.68m, taxable profits tumbled to £611,000, compared with £1.17m last time.

However, the interim dividend *is being increased from* 2p to 2.5p net. Last time a final of 4p was paid from profits of £6.63m.

Mr. Menzies says there are three reasons for the fall in earnings. The wholesale division suffered severely from industrial disruption within publishing houses — resulting in a loss £350,000 greater than the previous year; the growth of the retail division, which makes its profits in the second half year, is causing group profits to swing to the final six months; and increased borrowings and sharply higher interest rates.

For the full year, the chairman sticks to his earlier forecast that profits will be not less than those for the previous year. He adds, however, that second half profits are dependent on the all-important Christmas trading season.

Interest charges for the six months increased from £305,000 to £564,000 but tax fell marginally from £94,000 to £92,000.

There was also an extraordinary credit of £87,000 this time, compared with a £654,000 debit. Minorities took £3,000 (nil).

Stated earnings per 25p share are down from 6.9p to 3p.

The company is a wholesale and retail newsagent and bookseller and stationer. It also provides leasing finance.

● comment

John Menzies' operating margins fell five points in the first half largely because higher costs were not compensated for by increased cover prices on publications. The wholesale division was also badly hit by the two-month IPC strike and other publishing industry disruptions. Retail sales were up fractionally over last year but the Terry Blood (Records) acquisition was slightly disappointing. To achieve its forecast of profit equal to last year's £6.7m, a 10 per cent gain will be needed in the second half. The group counts on strong Christmas retail trade and the recent round of cover price increases to carry it through and has expressed its confidence with a 25 per cent rise in the interim dividend. The shares, at 257p, down 2p, have a prospective p/e of about 5.6 on unchanged stated earnings. The yield, on a similar increase in the final dividend, would be 4.2 per cent.

Anglo-African Finance shows £29,000 fall

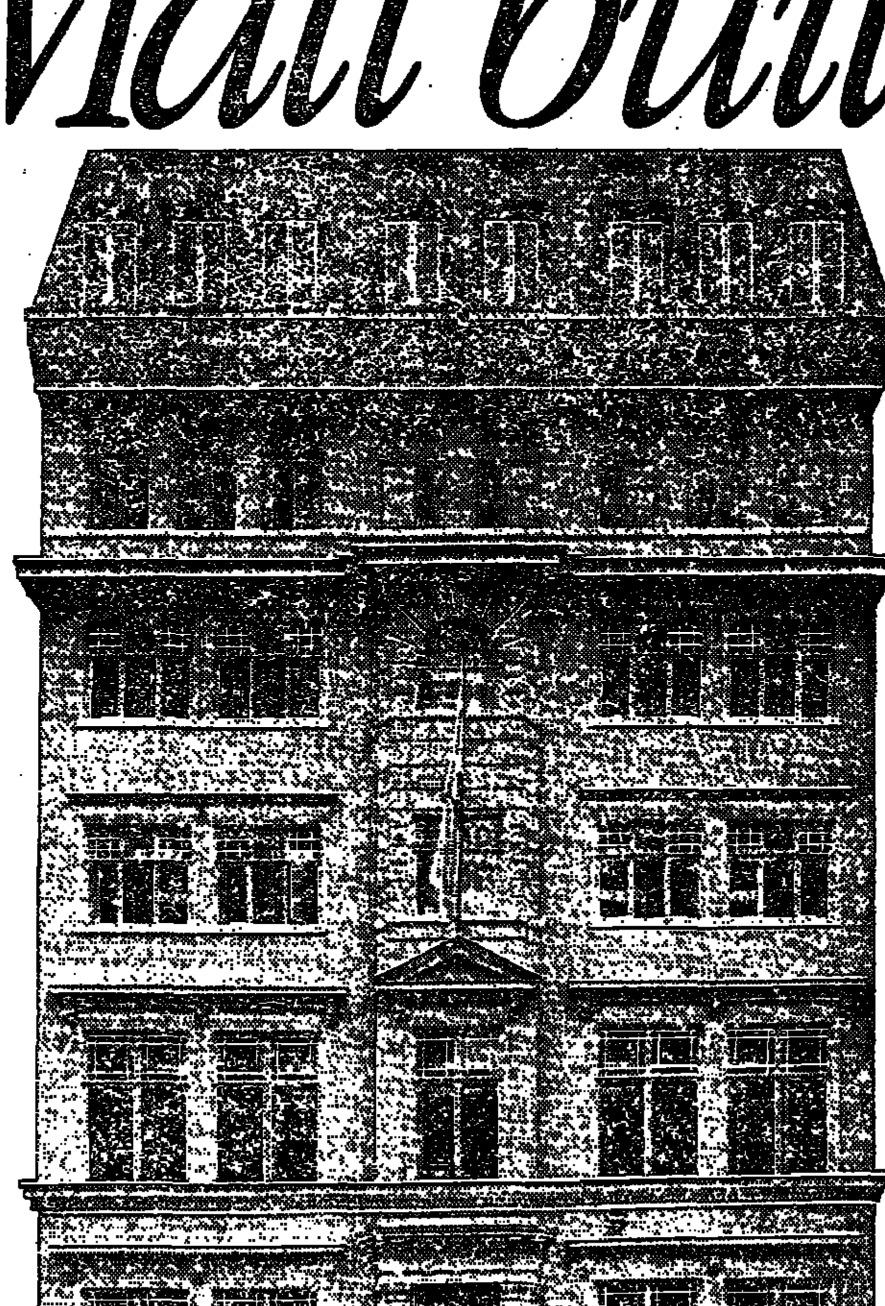
Profits of security dealer, **Anglo-African Finance Company** dropped from £87,809 to £58,821 for the six months to January 19, 1980. After tax of £17,680, against £17,040, earnings per 7½p share were down from 0.77p to 0.45p.

The board intends to recommend a dividend similar to last year's payment of 0.75p net when the full year results are known. Pre-tax profits for the year ended July 19, 1979, were £200,000.

Dewhurst Dent, in which the company had a 45.46 per cent holding on January 19, declared on July 19, 1979, a dividend of £19,680, but as this was not payable until May this year, it has not been included in the half-year results.

No further dividends are expected from Dewhurst, which has forecast a substantial loss for the year ended July 19, 1980.

The company's overseas interests are trading more profitably and the board anticipates increased dividends which will take some time before being reflected in its investment income.



Barratt rises £6.56m on new accounting basis

AFTER reporting a first-half advance from £8.16m to £11.51m, Barratt Developments increased pre-tax profits for the year ended June 30, 1980, to a record £24.76m, compared with a restated £18.2m previously. Turnover of the group, whose interests are in building and development, contracting and property investment, climbed from £163.24m to £220.44m.

The group has changed its accounting policy in relation to taking profit on the sale of private houses to a legal completion basis. Had this changed policy not been adopted, taxable profits for 1979-80 would have been some £26m (£20.6m).

The directors say that despite the economic situation, current sales levels are very satisfactory and the group is steadily increasing its market share. The newer subsidiaries in the South East and the West Midlands continue to make an increasingly important contribution, as does the property investment division.

The year's turnover and profits were split between (in £000s):—housebuilding £196,740 (£145,322) and £22,663 (£17,448); property investment income £1,968 (£1,515) and £1,461 (£1,185); property conversions £2,825 (£1,400) and £469 (£298); contracting £18,902 (£15,007) and £166 (£727 loss). Comparatives are restated.

Tax charge was up from 68,000 to £3.83m, giving net profits of £20.93m, compared with £18.14m. Earnings per 10p share rose by 6.2p to 55.3p and a final dividend of 8.85p net makes a total payment of 12.35p, against 10.255p, costing £4.68m (£3.87m). A one-for-four scrip issue is also proposed and the directors intend to at least maintain the dividend on the increased capital.

The directors have reviewed the value of the group's portfolio of investment properties and in their opinion the market value of the completed investment properties exceeds the balance sheet value of £23.9m by at least £10m.

The group is on course to achieve a rental income of £3m during 1981.

During the year, over £30m of overdraft has been replaced by medium- and long-term facilities from the group's clearing bankers. Current unused facilities are around £50m. At balance date, loans had increased to £37.21m (£3.95m) while bank overdrafts were down from £29.56m to £15.8m.

The directors report that the group currently owns 35,000 plots of high quality developable land, all well located in areas of proven demand.

They are pleased with the progress to date of American National Housing Corporation, which became the group's first overseas subsidiary when acquired on March 31 for $12m, phased over several years. Its results, however, have not been consolidated this year, as to do so would have delayed the preparation of the group's accounts.

Lex Back Page

AB Electronic reaches £0.92m

BETTER RESULTS for the second half than indicated at midway, have enabled A.B. Electronic Products Group to reach £918,273 in the year ended June 30, 1980, compared with £1.38m in the previous year.

First half profits amounted to £395,254 (£580,512) and the directors said then that second half results were likely to be similar to the first six months. However, a good upturn was expected for the following year.

The Board now reports that although there was reduced demand for components made by the South Wales factories, this was offset by an improvement in the group's equipment and foreign operations.

Although difficult trading is expected to persist with its effect on the current half year's results, the long term prospects of the electronics industry are viewed with confidence.

Earnings per 25p share are stated as 17.8p (30.1p) and 17.5p (29.3p) fully diluted. The final dividend is an unchanged 4.5p making a total of 7.5p compared with 7p.

Turnover was maintained at £22.17m (£22.78m). Foreign sales increased by 5 per cent with exports from the UK reduced. The contribution from the German subsidiary increased by 27 per cent.

The directors say plant modernisation and additions continued and the new factories at Newbury and in Austria are nearing completion. Capital expenditure, including leasing, increased by 39 per cent over the previous year. Financial resources remain adequate for the declared development policy of the group.

A further contraction in consumer electronics business has occurred, and emphasis is on professional electronic component and equipment manufacture and sales.

The Welsh component factories cannot escape the impact of prolonged recession in manufacturing industry in Britain and strong sterling abroad, the Board states.

Substantial reductions in the labour force and overhead costs are being effected. The component business will however have a good chance of quick recovery when a general upturn occurs.

	1979-80 £	1978-79 £
Turnover	22,174,000	22,778,000
Trading profit	1,895,182	2,210,042
Depreciation	731,367	598,496
Interest paid	245,537	236,418
Profit before tax	918,278	1,375,128
UK tax	4,577	227,919
Foreign tax	233,150	96,072
Net profit	680,551	1,051,137
Dividends	287,167	255,408
Currency loss	53,134	40,934
Balance	340,250	754,795

LAND SECURITIES CONVERSIONS

Land Securities Investment Trust has received notice of the following unsecured loan stock conversions £1,906,819 of 5¾ per cent 1983 £2,422,605 of 6¼ per cent 1985; £146,454 of 10 per cent 1990-95.

The issued capital is now 272,243,125 ordinary 50p shares.

Elbar in losses and interim cut

WITH INTEREST charges more than doubled at £775,864, against £381,925, Elbar Industrial incurred pre-tax losses of £393,570 for the first six months of 1980, compared with profits of £901,022 last time. Turnover of this industrial holding company edged ahead from £31m to £31.89m.

Trading conditions throughout the group remain very difficult, particularly in the agricultural division. Strict economy measures are being introduced but the directors say further loss in the second half may be unavoidable.

The interim dividend is being reduced from 4p to 1p net per share—last year's total was 10p on taxable profits of £1.54m.

Loss per 50p share was 12.05p (13.25p earnings) for the six months.

No tax is payable for the period, against a charge of £468,360 last time, and after the dividend cost of £32,657 (£130,629), there was a deficit of £426,227 (£302,033 profits).

Copydex into net loss

ALTHOUGH Copydex achieved a small trading surplus of £13,000 (£119,000) in the first half of 1980, a tax charge of £5,000 against £62,000 and a £42,000 severance payment to a former director left the group with a net loss of £34,000 against profits of £57,000 in the same period last year.

Turnover improved from £2.14m to £2.4m.

Directors have decided to omit the interim dividend (1p). Last year total dividends of 3p net were paid from pre-tax profits of £369,000. Mr. Charles A. Leat, chairman, says it seems unlikely that second half trading profits will show a material improvement over the first half, yielding break-even for the full year.

Second half prospects for the adhesives, D-I-Y products and floor covering accessories manufacturer depend largely on customer confidence in maintaining stock levels, the board says.

The rsults reflect the nationwide recession in trade combined with increased inflationary pressure on running costs, directors say. Accordingly, they have made economies in staff and overheads and are carrying out a planned programme of product and production improvements.

Mr. J. N. Boon retired from the board at the end of June after 20 years service and the severance costs were incurred in this respect.

BREWER & TURNBULL

Brewer and Turnbull, domestic and overseas removal group, has passed back into private ownership.

Hirst and Mallinson, the Huddersfield textile group, has sold the company to the Whittle International Group of Preston. The Brewer and Turnbull operation will now link with Whittle's removals and storage activities which include overland commercial freight services to Eastern Europe, Greece and the Middle East.

BOARD MEETINGS

The following companies have notified dates of Board meetings to the Stock Exchange. Such meetings are usually held for the purpose of considering dividends. Official indications are not available as to whether dividends are interims or finals and the sub-divisions shown below are based mainly on last year's timetable.

TODAY

Interims: Alva Investment Trust, Astbury and Madeley, Cakebread Robey, W. and J. Glossop, Grattan Warehouses, Hugh Mackay, Manders, Rowan and Boden, Sunlight Service, Wace, George Wills.

Finals: Armstrong Equipment, Ben Bailey Construction, Dowding and Mills, Ferry Pickering, Marler Estates, Mills and Allen International, Ricardo Consulting Engineers.

FUTURE DATES

Interims—	
Brooks Watson	Sept. 25
Bulgin (A. F.)	Oct. 1
Currys	*Sept. 29*
Empire Stores (Bradford)	Oct. 8
Energy Services & Electronics	Sept. 29
Malakoff Berhad	Sept. 26
More O'Ferrall	Oct. 14
Singlo	Sept. 25
Supra	Sept. 29
Third Mile Investment	Sept. 25
Finals—	
Bejam	Oct. 7
Electronic Machine	Oct. 1

Black Horse introduces with-profits life policy

Black Horse Life Assurance, the life insurance subsidiary of Lloyds Bank, is entering the conventional with-profits market.

The company, renamed from Beehive Life Assurance, began life assurance operations over five years ago with the launch of a single premium linked bond. This was followed by regular savings linked life contracts. Last year it commenced marketing conventional non-profit endowment contracts in connection with its top-up mortgage scheme.

Now it is offering with-profits contracts and conventional term assurance policies.

The company will set up a new separate fund for with-profits contracts. With-profits policyholders will be entitled to at least 90 per cent of the profits from the fund.

The directors of Black Horse Life can also allocate profits from other life business to with-profits policyholders, if so desired.

Bonuses will be declared annually, and based on a compound system, the rate applying to the sum assured and attaching bonuses, with the interim bonus at £4 per cent compound.

The company intends to pay a terminal bonus on death and maturity claims, the rate depending on the investment performance of the with-profits fund.

In addition it is launching a low-cost endowment—a combination of with-profits and decreasing term assurance—for repayment of mortgages. But this contract will not yet be available for the company's top-up loan repayments.

Black Horse Life is also introducing a comprehensive range of pure protection contracts—both lump sum and income payments on a level and increasing sum format, together with a decreasing term assurance contract to provide death cover on building society repayment mortgages.

The company intends to enter the self-employed and executive pensions market next year with both conventional and unit-linked schemes.

IN BRIEF

MEAT TRADE SUPPLIERS (sausage casings, wholesale meat and butchers' sundries)—Results for 53 weeks ended April 5, 1980 already known. Shareholders' interest £2.14m (£2.01m). Long term loan £10,099 (£15,755); bank and cash balances £55,722 (£105,759); bank overdrafts £98,255 (£26,118). Meeting, Winchester House, EC, October 17, noon.

MATTHEW CLARK AND SONS (HOLDINGS) (wines and spirits shipper and merchant)—Results for year ended April 30, 1980 already known. Shareholders' funds £5.61m (£5.09m). Bank overdrafts and short-term loans £1.56m (£2.45m). Cash and bank balances £21,781 (£367,956). Chairman says that with the prospects of a difficult year ahead, the company is going all out for volume and an increased market share. Meeting, Winchester House, EC, October 8, noon.

BRITISH ELECTRIC TRACTION COMPANY (industrial holding company)—Results for year ended March 31, 1980 already reported. Shareholders' funds 292.54m (£270.7m). Loan capital £53.75m (£49.47m). Bank overdrafts £93.9m (£70.62m); cash and short term deposits £27.54m (£26.54m). Chairman says group is in good shape and well equipped for the future. Meeting, Connaught Rooms, WC, October 16, 12.15 pm.

CHRISTIE-TYLER (furniture makers)—Results for year to April 30, 1980 and outlook for current year already reported. Shareholders' funds, £6.2m (£6.09m), loans, £0.99m (£1.12m). Bank overdraft, £0.61m (£0.28m). Cash, £2.19m (£1.53m). Accounts show compensation payment of £30,000. ICFC holds 30 per cent of group's issued ordinary. Meeting, Cardiff, October 15 at noon.

WAGON INDUSTRIAL HOLDINGS—Results reported August 6. Shareholders' funds for the year to March 31, 1980 stood at £22.32m (£17.07m). Amounts due to bankers £940,000 (£1.82m). Short term deposits £2.77m (nil). Bank and cash balances £103,000 (£16,000). Meeting: Birmingham, October 2, 11 am.

UNITED BRITISH SECURITIES TRUST—Results for year June 30, 1980, already known. Valuation of investments £80.37m (£75.19m), net asset value per share 183p (169.9p). Chairman says it would be most unrealistic to expect the growth in income for the current year to approach the same rate as in 1980 even if special dividends are excluded. A small growth is expected and the total dividend should not be less than 7p. Meeting, 83, Cannon Street, EC, October 14, noon.

MURRAY CALEDONIAN INVESTMENT TRUST—Results for year to June 30, 1980, already reported. For current year total dividend of not less than 2.3p expected interim will represent a rather higher proportion of year's payment. Equity shareholders' interest £41.13m (£36.75m). Investments £48.15m (£42.04m). Unrealised capital gains £19.62m (£16.3m). Meeting: Glasgow, October 13, at 11 am.

NEEPSEND (engineering and tool production, metal production and processing)—Results for the year ended March 31, 1980 with prospects reported July 23. Shareholders' funds £11.04m (£10.8m). Medium term loans £6.16m (£6.45m), bank overdrafts 1.47m (£2.31m). Auditors note that group has not complied with SSAP 12 in that no depreciation has been provided in respect of freehold and long leasehold buildings, apart from certain exceptional items; the effect has been to increase after-tax profits by some £193,000. Meeting, Sheffield, October 16, 12.15 pm.

Stewart Wrightson slips amid fierce competition

WITH FIERCE competition in world insurance markets inhibiting growth in brokerage income while costs continued to rise at a faster rate, the trading surplus at Stewart Wrightson Holdings fell from £2.55m to £1.49m in the first half of 1980.

This decline was partly offset by £0.49m advance to £2.66m in interest and investment income for taxable profit to emerge down at £3.57m, against £4.21m.

However the net interim dividend is being maintained at 3.35p. Last time an 8.15p final was paid from £10.4m profit.

Mr. Gordon Henry, the chairman, points out that the weakness of the U.S. dollar, in which currency much of the group's income is earned, added to the problems. In local terms brokerage rose 12 per cent but this was reduced to 8 per cent on conversion.

Though the investment income of the overseas companies benefited from higher interest rates the London-based companies had to finance a growing proportion of their international business, leaving the overall net interest earnings of the insurance broking subsidiaries little changed.

Due principally to interest earnings the profits of Wrightson's insurance companies were higher but there was a downturn in the contribution from its Lloyd's underwriting agencies.

An active shipping market in the early months of the year enabled the results from the Galbraith shipbroking interests move well ahead. Also the three oil tankers chartered to Bergen Shipping Partners were employed fully reducing operating losses on the vessels.

The contribution from the rural land activities reflected the trading losses associated with the group's withdrawal from farming and, despite a satisfactory result from Fountain Forestry, were, in aggregate, below the level seen in the first-half of 1979.

Though the problems of the current business climate so far show no signs of diminishing the directors are not allowing these difficulties to frustrate their plans for the future, the chairman says.

Profit was struck after interest costs of £687,000 (£627,000) and included a £108,000 (£116,000) share of associates.

With tax taking £1.7m (£1.91m) net profit came out at £1.87m, compared with £2.3m.

The attributable total was £1.27m (£1.44m) after minorities of £237,000 (£399,000) and extraordinary debits of £365,000 (£457,000).

● comment

Latest results from Stewart Wrightson suggest that the good figures from Willis Faber, which showed a 19 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for the same period, are likely to prove untypical for the insurance broking sector. Stewart Wrightson, which has a number of problematical non-insurance broking interests, has held its fall in pre-tax profits to 15 per cent in the first half, which compares with a near 10 per cent fall in taxable profits at Sedgwick Group over the same period. Stewart Wrightson suffered from rising expenses which outstripped brokerage growth of 8 per cent in sterling terms. The group earns between 65-70 per cent of its business overseas and currency movements took out around £600,000 from profits. Elsewhere, although losses on the shipping side are being reduced its ship charter agreements with the Norwegian interests have yet to be renegotiated. The group's farming interests are still lossmaking with the exception of Fountain Forestry, but Wrightson is withdrawing from its capital intensive farming tenancies. The group could make £9m for the full year, supported by investment income which showed a net 28 per cent rise in the first half. The shares at 214p, stand on a prospective p/e of around 11p and yield a prospective 8 per cent, assuming a maintained dividend of 12p net for the year.

CORAL LEISURE

S. G. Warburg and Co., bought on behalf of Grand Metropolitan, 250,000 Ordinary 10p shares of Coral Leisure Group, at 90½p, on September 22.

COMPANY NOTICES

UNILEVER N.V.

CERTIFICATES FOR ORDINARY AND 4%, 6% AND 7% PREFERENCE SUB-SHARES of FL.12 ISSUED BY N.V. NEDERLANDSCH ADMINISTRATIE- EN TRUSTKANTOOR (NEDAMTRUST) IN THE NAME OF MIDLAND BANK EXECUTOR AND TRUSTEE COMPANY LIMITED NOW MIDLAND BANK TRUST COMPANY LIMITED

As from 1st October 1980 the following scale of fees will apply to applications relating to the exchange of the above mentioned Sub-shares for Dutch certificates issued by Nedamtrust, Original shares or New York shares of Unilever N.V. and vice versa and to the sub-division or consolidation of certificates for sub-shares:—

Exchange of:—	
(a) Sub-shares for Dutch certificates of Ordinary and 7% Preference	No fee
(b) Sub-shares for Original 4% and 6% Preference shares (c) Sub-shares for New York shares (d) Original shares for 4% and 6% Preference Sub-shares (e) New York shares for Ordinary Sub-shares (f) Dutch certificates for Ordinary or 7% Sub-shares	20p per 1 x Fl.20 55p per 5 x Fl.20 or 1 x FL100 £1.20 per 50 x Fl.20 10 x Fl.100 or 1 x Fl.1.000 (b) and (c) based on certificates issued (d) (e) and (f) based on certificates surrendered.
Sub-division or consolidation of:—	
(g) Sub-shares into smaller or larger denomination certificates	20p per application plus 5p per certificate issued

N.V. NEDERLANDSCH ADMINISTRATIE- EN TRUSTKANTOOR
London Transfer Office, Unilever House, Blackfriars, London EC4P 4BQ.

SIDRO

Societe Anonyme
Registered Office,
38 Rue de Naples, Brussels
Commercial Register of Brussels No. 1646

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the *Annual General Meeting of the Company* will be held at the Company's offices at 38 Rue de Naples, Brussels 5, on Tuesday, 14th October 1980 at 2.30 p.m. for the following purposes:

AGENDA

1. To receive Reports of the Directors and Auditors on the transactions of the Company for the period up to and including 30th June 1980.
2. To receive the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account for the period ended 30th June 1980. To appropriate the balance of the Profit and Loss Account.
3. Discharge of the Directors and of the Auditors.
4. Statutory appointments. Number of Directors and Auditors. Remuneration.

In order to attend this meeting, or to be represented at the Meeting, shareholders are required to conform to Articles 30 and 31 of the Company's Articles.

Bearer Shares may be deposited up to and including 8th October 1980 during opening hours at the counters allotted to receive them, at the head office of the Company (entrance 25 rue de Champ de Mars) and:

In London:
Banque Belge Ltd.,
4 Bishopsgate,
London EC2N 4AD.
Midland Bank Ltd.,
International Division,
60 Gracechurch Street,
London EC3P 3BN.
Baring Brothers & Co. Ltd.,
88 Leadenhall Street,
London EC3A 3DT.
J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Ltd.,
120 Cheapside,
London EC2V 6DS.

PROXIES of shareholders wishing to be represented must be received at the Head Office by 10th October 1980 at the latest.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

TOKYO SANYO ELECTRIC COMPANY LTD. (CDRs)

The undersigned announces that as from 29th September, 1980 at Kas-Associatie N.V., Spuistraat 172, Amsterdam and Banque Générale du Luxembourg S.A., 14 Rue Aldringen, Luxembourg, div. cp. no. 8 (accompanied by an "Affidavit") of the CDRs Tokyo Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd., will be payable with $1.39 net per CDR, repr. 100 shs. and with $13.90 net per CDR, repr. 1,000 shs. (div. per record-date 31.5.1980: gross Yen 3.50 p.sh.) after deduction of 15% Japanese tax = Yen 52.50 = $0.24 per CDR, repr. 100 shs. and Yen 525 = $2.40 per CDR, repr. 1,000 shs.

Without an Affidavit 20% Jap. tax (= Yen 70 = $0.32 per CDR repr. 100 shs. and Yen 700 = $3.20 per CDR, repr. 1,000 shs.) will be deducted. After 31.12.1980 the div. will only be paid under deduction of 20% Jap. tax with $1.31 and $13.10 resp. net, in accordance with the Japanese tax regulations.

AMSTERDAM DEPOSITARY COMPANY N.V.

Amsterdam.
18th September 1980.

WESTMINSTER BANK BEARER CERTIFICATES REPRESENTING SHARES OF THE ORDINARY CAPITAL STOCK OF CANADIAN PACIFIC LIMITED

National Westminster Bank Limited hereby affirms the decision announced by Notice of intent on 30 July, 1979 to terminate the payment of dividends and any further operations in respect of its Westminster Bank Bearer Certificates representing shares of the Ordinary Capital Stock of Canadian Pacific Limited beyond Coupon No. 217.

With effect from 24 September 1980 holders of Bearer Certificates should surrender these, as instructed below, in exchange for registered certificates of Canadian Pacific Limited representing an equivalent number of Ordinary p.v. $5 shares.

Bearer Certificates

Bearer Certificates should be listed, in numerical order, as follows:—

Certificates issued for par value $25: blue form NWB 12214.

Certificates issued for par value $100: pink form NWB 12215

with a maximum number of four continuation sheets with each lodgement.

Talons

Every bearer certificate surrendered must be accompanied by its respective talon bearing the same number as the certificate and also the serial number of the coupon sheet to which it belongs.

No exchange can be effected on any certificate lodged without the appropriate talon, until an acceptable Form of Indemnity has been provided by the holder.

Registered Certificates of Canadian Pacific Limited

In order that the underlying Canadian Pacific Limited certificates, presently registered in the name of Westminster Bank Limited, may be transferred in the Register of the Company, Form CPL 217 must be completed, in duplicate, and lodged at the same time as the bearer certificates.

It is essential that the number of shares tendered for transfer on this form agrees with the number of p.v. $100 or p.v. $25 bearer shares shown on the pink or blue listing forms after conversion to p.v. $5 shares.

Each Form CPL 217 should correspond with either a pink or a blue listing form (with or without continuation sheets) and *bearer shares of p.v. $100 must not be amalgamated on Form CPL 217 with those of p.v. $25 for the purpose of calculating the number of p.v. $5 shares for re-registration and transfer.*

Lodgement

Bearer certificates and talons should be lodged, by PERSONAL PRESENTATION ONLY, with the National Westminster Bank Limited, Stock Office Services, 5th Floor, Drapers Gardens, 12 Throgmorton Avenue, London EC2, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on business days.

The listing forms and Form CPL 217 may be obtained from the counter of that office, to whom any enquiries should also be addressed.

Postal applications or lodgements cannot be accepted.

Dividend Coupons

Dividend details concerning payment of the final coupon (CPN No. 217) were published in the Financial Times newspaper of 8 August, 1980.

This coupon and any remaining unclaimed dividend coupons should be detached from the bearer certificates before lodgement and presented for payment to the above office on a separate listing form which is also obtainable from that office.

Unclaimed coupons presented and paid after 27 March 1981 will be subject to deduction of United Kingdom Income Tax at the appropriate rate and declarations of non-residence in the United Kingdom will not apply.

Claims for repayment of United Kingdom Income Tax may be made, by persons non-resident in the United Kingdom, on a form A1 or, where appropriate, on their behalf on a form C1. These completed forms, together with the tax deduction certificate supplied, are to be sent to the Inspector of Foreign Dividends Office, Lynwood Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey, KT7 0DP. Forms A1 and C1 will be provided by the National Westminster Bank Limited upon request.

TOKYO SANYO ELECTRIC CO., LTD. (CDRs)

The undersigned announces that the Semi-Annual Report for the six month period ended May 31st 1980 of Tokyo Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd. will be available in Luxembourg at:
Banque Générale du Luxembourg S.A.
and further at:
Algemene Bank Nederland N.V.,
Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank N.V.,
Bank Mees & Hope NV,
Pierson, Heldring & Pierson N.V.,
Kas-Associatie N.V.

AMSTERDAM DEPOSITARY COMPANY N.V.

Amsterdam.
September 15th, 1980.

URUGUAY 5 PER CENT CONVERSION GOLD LOAN 1905 AND URUGUAY 5 PER CENT PUBLIC WORKS LOAN 1905

ASSENTED BONDS

Williams & Glyn's Bank Limited hereby give notice that they have received instructions from the Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas S.A., Paris to pay to the extent of the funds which may be provided for the purpose coupons of the above loans due 1st October 1980, in sterling at the rate of £0.175 per unit coupon. This represents interest at 3½% in accordance with the terms of the offer of the Uruguayan Government dated 3rd January 1939.

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

CLUBS

UK COMPANY NEWS

MINING NEWS

Mexico backs advanced iron ore processing

BY KENNETH MARSTON, MINING EDITOR

A NEW PROCESS for making directly reduced iron (DRI) from ores for steelmaking was disclosed yesterday by the Mexican company **HYL** which is part of Mexico's biggest private sector company the **Grupo Industrial Alfa**, writes **Roy Hodson.**

HYL believes it has the most advanced iron ore DRI process in the world and backs its claim with a clutch of orders for the new system totalling 4.5m annual tonnes of plant capacity.

Although more than 20 processes for converting ore into DRI are now being marketed commercially the struggle for a dominant position in the fast-changing technology is between HYL and **Midrex Corporation** of Charlotte, North Carolina. The two companies are installing the bulk of the new DRI plant which is expected to rise swiftly to a world capacity of some 33m annual tonnes within the next three years.

Mr. Javier Sojo, president of HYL, said *his* company's new HYL 111 process has already been justified by the *inflow* of orders as the most advanced DRI process in the world.

A new engineering and construction agreement for HYL 111 has been signed between HYL and the **Dravo Corporation** of *Pittsburg. Other HYL engineering* associates are **MAN/GHH** Sterkrade of Oberhausen, West Germany, and **Kawasaki Heavy Industries** of Japan.

HYL III is a continuous ore processing system which builds *on the advantages of the established* HYL fixed bed process. A single shaft furnace is used instead of the customary four furnaces in the earlier versions of HYL technology. Capital and operating costs of HYL III are *said to be lower than any other* DRI process on the market.

The Mexican government has decided to back the new process to the hilt by switching entirely to it from blast furnace technology for the expansion of *the Mexican steel industry.* The additional 10m tonnes steelmaking capacity being planned in Mexico during the next 10 years will all be based upon DRI produced by the HYL III process.

The expansion of the Mexican government's Sicartsa works will be based upon four HYL III units with a capacity of 2m tonnes of DRI a year.

Meanwhile, Midrex has commissioned a DRI unit for the **Iron and Steel Company of Trinidad and Tobago** which marks the start of an ambitious programme to transform Trinidad and Tobago into a medium-sized steel producer. The plant will have an annual capacity of *of 840,000 tonnes of DRI when a* second module is started up in 1981. The fuel used is natural gas.

Intl. Mining's oil-shale

Australia's **International Mining Corporation** has released further drilling results from the Bungobine oil-shale prospect near *Mount Coolon* in Queensland. The discovery of oil-shale at Bungobine was first announced on September 9.

At a Press conference held in Sydney yesterday the company's geologist Dr. J. Bryan said drill*ing had so far delineated oil* shale over a total area of about 10 sq km in two deposits.

The two deposits contain oil-bearing shale of thicknesses between 5.4 metres and 10.5 metres and an average oil yield *ranging from 54 to 160 litres per* tonne.

At the Press conference Mrs. Millie Phillips, IMC's chairman, said the company has applied for areas adjoining authority to prospect 2519 on which the Bungobine *prospect* is located.

To date a total of just more than 1,000 metres has been drilled and the 19 holes drilled so far have established the two oil-shale deposits and outlined some other areas that are not prospective.

The current drilling programme is being undertaken to determine the full extent of those deposits, and to test the remainder of the granted authorities to prospect for further occurrences of oil-shale. International Mining shares were unchanged at 58p yesterday.

Canada uranium stake taken by U.S. Edison

AFTER ABOUT a decade of participation, the West German **Urangesellschaft** group, controlled by several German utilities, has sold its 40 per cent interest in the Labrador uranium properties controlled by **Brinco**, the main exploration arm of **Rio Tinto-Zinc** in Canada, reports **Robert Gibbens** from **Montreal.**

The buyer is **Edison Development Canada**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of **Commonwealth Edison** of Chicago, the major U.S. utility.

Technically, the interest acquired by Edison Development entitles it to a 40 per cent interest in any mining leases taken on the joint-venture lands and in any companies formed to work them. A Brinco sub*sidiary, Brinex holds the remain*ing 60 per cent interest.

The properties covered include the Kitts-Michelin uranium deposit near Goose Bay, at the mouth of the Churchill River running into the Labrador Sea, *and other properties where high-*grade uranium containing boulders have been discovered.

The Kitts-Michelin deposit was found about a decade ago, and is believed to be a commercial proposition. However, develop*ment has been indefinitely* delayed by depressed conditions in the world uranium market and some local opposition.

The Urangesellschaft group has major uranium properties in northern Saskatchewan.

SOUTH AFRICA'S GOLD OUTPUT

South Africa's gold output during August totalled 1,816,314 ozs, well below the 1,905,366 ozs produced in July.

In the eight months to end-August the Republic produced 14,580,075 ozs compared with 15,117,681 ozs in the same *period* last year.

The latest figures continue to reflect the South African mines' stated policy of mining lower grade ores in times of strength in the bullion price.

This strength was particularly *apparent yesterday* as the price of gold advanced $34 to $711½ an ounce—it's highest since early February—following the intensification of the conflict between Iran and Iraq.

SPAIN

September 23	Price %	+ or −
Banco Bilbao	239	−2
Banco Central	275	
Banco Exterior	212	−2
Banco Hispano	228	−2
Banco Ind. Cat.	120	
Banco Madrid	141	
Banco Santander	272	−3
Banco Urquijo	137	−1
Banco Vizcaya	248	−4
Banco Zaragoza	244	
Dragados	115	−2
Espanola Zinc	73	+0.5
Fecsa	64	
Gal. Preciados	34	−1
Hidrola	68	−0.5
Iberduero	65	−0.7
Petroleos	114	−4
Petroliber	89	
Sogefisa	102	−5
Telefonica	62.7	−0.3
Union Elect.	68	−0.5

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Option	Ex'rcise price	Oct. Closing offer	Oct. Vol.	Jan. Closing offer	Jan. Vol.	April Closing offer	April Vol.	Equity close
BP	330	54	13	74	1	90	—	379p
BP	360	28	95	52	4	70	—	"
BP	590	*12*	201	*32*	105	—	—	"
BP	420	4	5	—	—	—	—	"
Com. Union	140	38	1	44	10	48	—	176p
Com. Union	160	18	4	27	—	32	—	"
Cons. Gold	500	150	10	165	7	187	—	648p
Cons. Gold	550	100	15	130	20	152	40	"
Cons. Gold	600	52	145	105	32	125	—	"
Cons. Gold	650	27	161	75	249	100	—	"
Courtaulds	60	2½	—	6	6	9	2	58p
Courtaulds	70	1	2	3½	10	6	2	"
GEC	360	175	3	195	3	—		521p
GEC	500	40	30	72		90	—	"
GEC	550	10	12	42	2	60	—	"
Grand Met.	130	28	—	35	17	—	—	155p
Grand Met.	140	15	3	27		31	—	"
Grand Met.	160	4	3	15½	3	20	—	"
ICI	330	28	—	48	1	58	—	352p
Land Secs.	353	37	—	69	7	—	—	381p
Land Secs.	390	10	20	35	—	51	—	"
Marks & Sp.	80	25	—	27	19	—	—	105p
Marks & Sp.	100	8	2	12½	—	17	—	"
Shell	360	64	1	78	—	—	—	420p
Shell	390	34	11	56	14	70	—	"
Shell	420	12	27	36	11	50	—	"
Shell	460	3	—	18	5	32	—	"
Totals			763		526		44	
		November		February		May		
Imperial Gp.	70	9	15	15½	—	—		75p
Imperial Gp.	80	3½	9	8	—	10½	8	"
Imperial Gp.	90	1½	—	4	—	5	3	"
Lonrho	84	26	—	35	18	—	—	109p
Lonrho	94	16	78	23	36	—	—	"
Lonrho	104	10	29	16	—	—	—	"
Lonrho	110	—	—	—	—	18	2	"
Lonrho	114	5½	96	11¼	70	—	—	"
[illegible]	150	5½	—	9½	5	14½	2	125p
Racal Elec.	330	17	19	31	—	46		316p
Racal Elec.	360	5	—	19	1	32		"
RTZ	494	25	7	50	—	68		480p
Totals			253		128		15	

BIDS AND DEALS

Waddington sells greeting cards offshoot for £3.97m

BY REG VAUGHAN

JOHN WADDINGTON, the games, packaging and printing group which has been hit by losses of almost £4m on its troubled Videomaster subsidiary in the last two years, is pulling out of the UK greeting cards business to concentrate resources on its other activities.

The group is selling Valentines of Dundee, a 155-year-old producer of greeting cards, gift wrap and associated products, to Hallmark Cards Inc of the U.S., a private family controlled company, for a total of £3.97m cash.

With Valentines' estimated 8 *to 9 per cent* of the basic greeting card market, the deal—which is being done through Hallmark's wholly-owned UK subsidiary—will give the enlarged UK operation a market share of around 18 to 19 per cent.

Both Hallmark—which has been in the UK card market since the late 1950s—and Valentines operate at the quality end of the greeting cards market and have been relativey unaffected by cheap imports from the USSR in recent years.

Mr. Jim Scott, managing director of Valentines, said yesterday that the future of the company had become overshadowed by the group's high debt to equity ratio (around 58 *per cent at the end of March,* 1980). The group was seeking the best way to deploy its resources and get its borrowings down.

Although the initial approach about the deal came from Hallmark, Mr. Scott admitted that Waddington's had been "actively considering" the disposal of the company.

The group had held talks with at least two other parties before reaching agreement with Hallmark. It is understood that the other interested companies were not UK based.

Mr. Keith Wheal, chairman of Hallmark Cards, described Valentines as "a good operation with a good product" and a workforce that was "well motivated." He said that he became aware of the possibility that Valentines might become available and thought that the purchase provided an opportunity to build up a 'good platform to develop the market."

Mr. Wheal said the card market was "incredibly fragmented" with about 100 companies making Christmas cards.

He added that the Valentines operation was "compatible with our way." The two companies were in the same part of the market with a similar market *share, although Hallmark's turn*over was a little larger and profits a little better. Last year was a good one for the company, he said.

Mr. Wheal said that Valentines would continue to operate as an independent entity with *its own*-name brand and card ranges. Hallmark intends to continue to develop and expand the business and has undertaken to safeguard the interests of all employees.

Total borrowings of the Waddington group at August 18 stood at £16.26m and will fall to £8.25m after the sale of Valentines is completed. The company says that the strengthened balance sheet will enable it to continue with "more promising opportunities" which exist for the development of the packaging and games activities.

Maintaining Waddington's position in the UK greeting cards industry would have restricted its ability to develop other parts of the group, the company says.

Mr. Scott said that one of the promising opportunities is on the packaging side where the group has been developing a new type of container for soft drinks and beer. Called Plastocan, it is made of a combination of aluminium and plastic and is about to be experimentally marketed. This development will require "substantial investment," he added.

In 1979-80 profits of Valentines were hit by the transport strike of 1979 which disrupted supplies and upset the balance of production. Pre-tax profits of the greeting cards side fell from £983,000 to £582,00, on sales of £12.49m (£11.09m). The group profit for that year was cut from £1.68m to £881,000, after doubled interest charges of £1.5m and Videomaster losses of £2.9m (£1.08m).

Mr. Scott said that Valentines profits were currently on a rising wave with the company increasing its share of the market.

Net tangible assets of Valen*tines* at March 29, 1980, amounted to £2,998,000. The purchase consideration is made up of a dividend of £2,24m; £1.51m to be received on completion; and £215,000 to be received on completion, representing repayment of a loan made by Waddington's to the Valentines group. In addition, short-term inter-company accounts between Valentines and Waddington at completion will be settled after completion.

Hallmark of the U.S. is a 70-year-old family-owned company with sales of over $500m. It is a major supplier of greeting cards worldwide and claims a third share of the 1bn U.S. greeting cards market.

In the last two years it has been diversifying into jewellery, pewter and crystal products and bath products.

A number of companies have pulled out of the greeting cards market this year—the largest being East Lancashire Paper which was in the bulk greeting cards business. The company ran up considerable losses on cards and blamed the influx of cheap Russian imports.

In 1979, 100m Russian cards were imported — enough to satisfy 10 per cent of the UK market.

The largest UK greeting cards producer is Fine Art Developments, which earlier this year acquired Wilson Bros., another greeting cards maker.

Carless buys Hampshire Farm

Carless, Capel and Leonard has acquired Humbly Grove Farm, near Basingstoke in Hampshire, for £420,000. The farm comprises one cottage and about 232 acres, and the company says the sale price is representative of agricultural prices in that area.

The purchase has been made on behalf of Carless exploration, Marinex Petroleum, Hadson Oil UK Onshore, Cambrian Exploration (Candecca), St. Joe Petroleum (UK) Corporation and Candel.

This consortium has produced test quantities of oil from their well adjoining Humbly Grove Farm.

Carless has indicated that it intends to work the farm as before and is presently considering the management alternatives open to it.

The Board says the purchase should facilitate any future operations that may be necessary to recover any oil that may lie in this area.

SHARE STAKES

Associated Leisure — Electra Investment Trust has purchased further fully paid ordinary shares bringing total interest to 1,525,000 (5.83 per cent).

General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation — Kuwait Investment Office has disposed of 50,000 shares leaving holding 12,968,000 (7.89 per cent).

John Beales Associated Companies — D. Tittle, director, has been granted an option to subscribe for up to 50,000 shares under share option scheme.

Consolidated Gold Fields — R. W. Amey, director, has disposed of 20,000 shares leaving holding 132,033.

NEB SELLS HOLDING IN BARROW HEPBURN

The National Enterprise Board has disposed of its entire holding of 1m ordinary shares in the **Barrow Hepburn Group**, the leather processor, to a group of *institutions and other investors.* The stake was placed at 28p per share giving the NEB a return of £280,000.

But the NEB will be showing an overall poor return on its investment. It paid £450,000 for *its stake of over 4 per cent in* 1978. The NEB described the move last night as part of its policy of divestment of holdings to the private sector.

The NEB injected £4.5m into a joint venture which it entered *into with Barrow* Hepburn, British Tanners Products, to aid the group in 1977. It turned out to be one of the NEB's most controversial investments and the lossmaking British Tanners went into receivership in July 1979.

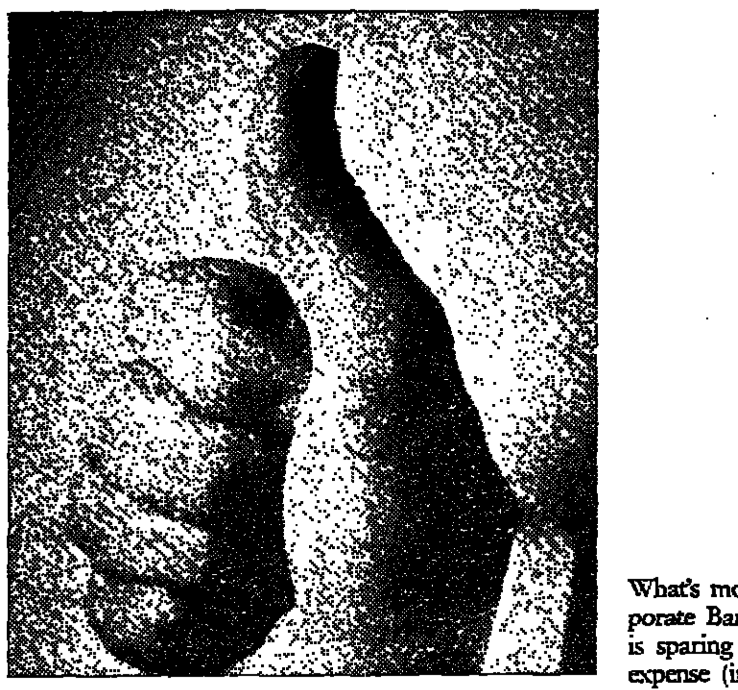
Revertex modifies forecast

Home sales volumes at **Revertex Chemicals** have fallen short of the expected level and trading conditions remain very de*pressed, the directors* stated yesterday. As a result they have had to modify their forecast, that trading profits would improve, given in the document issued at the end of July recommending the offers from Yule *Catto.*

They now say that the trading profit for the year is expected to be below that envisaged at the time of the July forecast.

To date 88.41 per cent of holders of the Revertex's *ordinary* capital not already held by Yule Catto, have accepted the offers.

The offers have not yet become unconditional and remain open until September 30. They are subject to Hoechst's *assurance* that it will not exercise its option to acquire Revertex's 50 per cent stake in Harlow Chemical company if Yule acquires more than 50 per cent of Revertex.



CURRENCIES, MONEY and GOLD

Sterling firm

Sterling continued to improve in currency markets yesterday, reaching a new five and a half year high, but finished some way below its best level, after profit taking during the day. Its trade weighted index opened at 77.3, sharply higher than Monday's close of 76.5, still underpinned by the latest Middle East conflict between Iran and Iraq. By noon however, the index had fallen to 76.7, and it closed at this level, still 0.2 points up from Monday, and showing a rise of nearly one and a half per cent on the week. Against the dollar sterling opened at $2.4150, and rose to a best level of $2.4210-2.4220, before profit taking saw the rate fall to $2.4050. Rumours that the U.S. hostages in Iran had been released led to a sharp reaction, and sterling fell to $2.3930-$2.3950. By noon it had recovered to $2.4000, and traded between $2.4000 and $2.4050 for most of the afternoon. It closed at $2.4020-2.4030, a fall of just 10 points from Monday.

Against the D-mark sterling rose to DM 4.3550 from DM 4.3450 and to FFr 10.0825 against the French franc, a new five and a half year high, compared with FFr 10.0800 on Monday.

The dollar was firmer initially as a reflection of higher Euro-dollar rates, with the latter generally up by one eighth of a point from Monday. Profit taking and the hostages rumour saw the U.S. unit finish towards the bottom of the day's range, but still well above Monday's close. Against the D-mark it finished at DM 1.8115, its best level *since the beginning of May*, and compared with DM 1.8065 on Monday, while in terms of the Swiss franc it rose to SwFr 1.6610 from SwFr 1.6575. The U.S. unit was also firmer against the Japanese yen, rising to Y218.25 from Y214.75. On Bank of England figures, the dollar's trade weighted index rose to 84.3 from 84.0.

D-MARK—One of the weaker members of the European Monetary System and unsettled just recently by *Middle East unrest*, falling to a four year low against sterling and its lowest level against the dollar since May—*The D-mark continued to lose* ground at yesterday's fixing in Frankfurt as interest focused on sterling and the dollar. The *pound rose to DM 4.3620* from DM 4.3080, a rise of nearly 2 per cent this week, while the dollar was fixed at DM 1.8148 compared with *DM 1.7980 on Monday*. Against its EMS partners, the D-mark was mostly weaker but to not as great an extent. The *French franc was* slightly firmer at DM 43.085 per FFr 100 against DM 43.02 and the Dutch guilder rose to DM 92.01 per *Fl 100 from* DM 91.97. Elsewhere the Swiss franc rose to DM 1.0929 from DM 1.0915½.

DANISH KRONE—Remaining quite firm around the middle of the EMS, following two devaluations in 1979—The Danish krone was mostly weaker at yesterday's fixing in Copenhagen, but showed a small recovery on news that the Danish Consumer Price Index had risen by only 0.4 per cent in August, giving a fall in the year on year *increase to* 11.2 per cent. The dollar was fixed at DKr 5.6190 compared with DKr 5.5685 on Monday, and sterling was higher at DKr 13.5525 against DKr 13.3220. On the other hand the D-mark slipped to DKr 3.0960 from DKr 3.0990, and the Belgian franc was lower *at DKr 19.30* per BFr 100 from DKr 19.325.

ITALIAN LIRE — Weakest member of the EMS, reflecting *high* inflation and balance of payments problems, and further undermined by devaluation rumours—The lira was weaker in Milan yesterday with the dollar fixed at L860.55, up from L854.05, and sterling rising to a record L2,066.5 from L2,047.2. The Swiss and French franc both *showed marginal gains*, while the D-mark eased to L474.41 from L474.83.

THE POUND SPOT AND FORWARD

Sept. 23	Day's spread	Close	One month	% p.a.	Three months	% p.a.
U.S.	2.3920-2.4220	2.4020-2.4030	1.07-0.97c pm	5.09	2.05-1.95 pm	3.33
Canada	2.7820-2.8160	2.7910-2.7920	1.60-1.50c pm	6.66	3.25-3.15 pm	4.58
Nethlnd.	4.72-4.78	4.72½-4.73½	3⅛-2⅛c pm	6.66	7-6 pm	5.50
Belgium	69.65-70.75	69.70-69.80	35-25c pm	5.16	65-55 pm	3.44
Denmark	13.43-13.60	13.44½-13.45½	par-1½ore dis	−0.67	5¼-6¾ dis	−1.78
Ireland	1.1505-1.1685	1.1547-1.1557	0.23-0.13p pm	1.87	0.37-0.27 pm	1.11
W. Ger.	4.34-4.40½	4.35-4.36	3⅛-2⅛pf pm	7.92	8-7 pm	6.89
Portugal	120.20-121.80	120.65-120.85	10c pm-35 dis	−1.24	10pm-105dis	−1.57
Spain	176.55-178.75	177.10-177.20	85-110c dis	−5.93	255-325dis	−6.55
Italy	2060-2090	2065-2066	9¾-11¾lire dis	−6.24	46½-48½dis	−9.10
Norway	11.66-11.79	11.67¾-11.68¾	4-2¾ore pm	3.40	8¾-7¾pm	2.78
France	10.07-10.23	10.07¾-10.08¾	4¾-3¾c pm	5.06	9¾-8¾ pm	3.47
Sweden	9.98-10.10	10.01¾-10.02¾	par-⅝ore dis	−0.37	2¾-3¾ dis	−1.27
Japan	517-530	523½-524½	0.60-0.05y pm	0.74	2.40-1.80 pm	1.60
Austria	30.70-31.15	30.80-30.85	15-12gro pm	5.25	31-25 pm	3.63
Switz.	3.97-4.04	3.98¾-3.99¾	4¾-3¾c pm	11.27	10¾-9¾ pm	9.89

Belgian rate is for convertible francs. Financial franc 70.40-70.60. Six-month forward dollar 2.52-2.42c pm. 12-month 3.10-3.00c pm.

THE DOLLAR SPOT AND FORWARD

Sept. 23	Day's spread	Close	One month	% p.a.	Three months	% p.a.
UK†	2.3920-2.4220	2.4020-2.4030	1.07-0.97c pm	5.09	2.05-1.95 pm	3.33
Ireland†	2.0725-2.0820	2.0790-2.0820	0.65-0.55c pm	3.47	1.25-1.15 pm	2.31
Canada	1.1609-1.1629	1.1614-1.1617	0.19-0.15c pm	1.76	0.37-0.32 pm	1.19
Nethlnd.	1.9680-1.9740	1.9680-1.9690	0.35-0.25c pm	1.83	1.22-1.12 pm	2.38
Belgium	29.02-29.13½	29.02-29.04	1c pm-½ dis	0.10	2 pm-1 dis	0.07
Denmark	5.6000-5.6150	5.6025-5.6040	2.40-2.90ore dis	−5.67	6.80-7.30dis	−5.03
W. Ger.	1.8075-1.8190	1.8110-1.8120	0.46-0.42pf pm	2.91	1.65-1.60 pm	3.59
Portugal	50.00-50.40	50.00-50.15	20-35c dis	−6.55	40-65 dis	−4.96
Spain	73.63-73.75	73.63-73.68	65-85c dis	−12.22	180-210dis	−10.59
Italy	859.25-860.75	859.25-859.75	8-10lire dis	−12.56	27-29 dis	−13.02
Norway	4.8640-4.8745	4.8655-4.8670	0.40-0.90ore dis	−1.60	0.50-1.00dis	−0.62
France	4.1975-4.2190	4.1975-4.1995	0.08c pm-0.02 dis	0.08	0.30-0.20 pm	0.24
Sweden	4.1585-4.1720	4.1705-4.1720	1.90-2.05ore dis	−5.68	4.85-5.00dis	−4.72
Japan	216.50-218.80	218.20-218.30	0.65-0.80y dis	−3.99	0.70-0.85dis	−1.42
Austria	12.82¼-12.85¼	12.82¼-12.83¼	0.3gro pm-0.3 dis	—	1.0 pm-½ dis	0.04
Switz.	1.6540-1.6665	1.6605-1.6615	0.95-0.90c pm	6.68	2.83-2.78 pm	6.75

† UK and Ireland are quoted in U.S. currency. Forward premiums and discounts apply to the U.S. dollar and not to the individual currency.

CURRENCY MOVEMENTS

Sept. 23	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes%
Sterling	76.7	−29.3
U.S. dollar	84.3	−9.4
Canadian dollar	81.0	−16.9
Austrian schilling	154.7	+24.0
Belgian franc	114.9	+13.1
Danish kroner	105.9	−5.2
Deutsche mark	153.3	+43.0
Swiss franc	196.5	+79.1
Guilder	125.9	+19.7
French franc	100.6	−6.1
Lira	52.4	−51.7
Yen	131.5	+29.0

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971 (Bank of England Index=100).

CURRENCY RATES

Sept. 22	Bank rate %	Special Drawing Rights	European Currency Unit
Sterling	16	0.549831	0.587484
U.S. $	10	1.31690	1.40761
Canadian $	11.02	1.53577	1.64156
Austria Sch	6¾	16.7497	17.9259
Belgium F	12	37.9959	40.6114
Danish K	12	7.32655	7.84603
D'mark	7½	2.35779	2.53244
Guilder	8½	2.57717	2.75371
French Fr	9½	5.50530	5.88563
Lira	15	1124.63	1202.10
Yen	8.25	278.656	300.525
Norwgn. Kr.	9	6.39618	6.83396
Spanish Pta.	8	96.5946	103.325
Swedish Kr.	*10*	*5.48432*	*5.85919*
Swiss Fr.	3	2.16946	2.31989

OTHER CURRENCIES

Sept. 23	£	$		£ Note Rates
Argentina Peso	4623-4643	1924-1931	Austria	*30.70-31.00*
Australia Dollar	2.0545-2.0585	0.8565-0.8570	Belgium	70.00-70.60
Brazil Cruzeiro	135.66-136.66	56.54-56.74	Denmark	13.42-13.52
Finland Markka	8.80-8.81	3.6650-3.6660	France	10.05-10.15
Greek Drachma	102.862-105.344	43.00-43.20	Germany	4.33½-4.37½
Hong Kong Dollar	11.94-11.96	4.9750-4.9770	Italy	2050-2145
Iran Rial	n.a.	n.a.	Japan	520-535
Kuwait Dinar(KD)	0.644-0.650	0.2681-0.2682	Netherlands	4.71½-4.75½
Luxembourg Frc.	69.70-69.80	29.02-29.04	Norway	11.64-11.74
Malaysia Dollar	5.1075-5.1175	2.1270-2.1290	Portugal	116½-126½
New Zealand Dlr.	2.4500-2.4550	1.0210-1.0220	Spain	171½-181
Saudi Arab. Riyal	7.98-8.04	3.3190-3.3210	*Sweden*	9.97-10.07
Singapore Dollar	5.06-5.07	2.1080-2.1100	Switzerland	3.97-4.01
Sth. African Rand	1.8080-1.8090	0.7525-0.7530	United States	2.39¼-2.41¼
U.A.E. Dirham	8.87-8.93	3.6880-3.6900	Yugoslavia	72¾-74½

Rate given for Argentina is free rate.

EMS EUROPEAN CURRENCY UNIT RATES

	ECU central rates	Currency amounts against ECU September 23	% change from central rate	% change adjusted for divergence	Divergence limit %
Belgian Franc	39.7897	40.6822	+2.24	+0.77	±1.53
Danish Krone	7.72336	7.84713	+1.60	+0.13	±1.64
German D-Mark	2.48208	2.53753	+2.23	+0.76	±1.125
French Franc	5.84700	5.88710	+0.69	−0.78	±1.3557
Dutch Guilder	2.74362	2.75721	+0.50	−0.97	±1.512
Irish Punt	0.668201	0.674957	+1.00	−0.47	±1.668
Italian Lira	1157.79	1204.88	+4.07	+2.73	±4.08

Changes are for ECU, therefore positive change denotes a weak currency. Adjustment calculated by Financial Times.

EXCHANGE CROSS RATES

Sept. 23	PoundSterling	U.S. Dollar	Deutschem'k	Japan'seYen	FrenchFranc	Swiss Franc	DutchGuild'	Italian Lira	Canada Dollar	Belgian Franc
Pound Sterling	1.	2.405	4.355	524.0	10.083	3.983	4.730	2066.	2.792	69.75
U.S. Dollar	0.416	1.	1.813	218.1	4.197	1.662	1.969	859.7	1.162	29.03
Deutschemark	0.230	0.552	1.	120.3	2.315	0.917	1.086	474.3	0.641	16.02
Japanese Yen 1,000	1.908	4.585	8.311	1000.	19.24	7.619	9.027	3942.	5.327	133.1
French Franc 10	0.992	2.383	4.319	519.7	10.	3.960	4.691	2049.	2.769	69.18
Swiss Franc	0.250	0.602	1.091	131.2	2.525	1.	1.185	517.3	0.699	17.47
Dutch Guilder	0.211	0.508	0.921	110.8	2.132	0.844	1.	436.7	0.590	14.75
Italian Lira, 1,000	0.484	1.163	2.108	253.7	4.881	1.933	2.290	1000.	1.351	33.77
Canadian Dollar	0.358	0.861	1.560	187.7	3.612	1.430	1.694	739.9	1.	24.99
Belgian Franc 100	1.434	3.444	6.244	751.3	14.46	5.724	6.781	2961.	4.002	100.

FT LONDON INTERBANK FIXING (11.00 a.m. SEPTEMBER 23)

3 months U.S. dollars		*6 months U.S. dollars*	
bid 12 1/4	offer 12 5/8	bid 12 13/16	offer 12 15/16

The fixing rates are the arithmetic means, rounded to the nearest one-sixteenth, of the bid and offered rates for $10m quoted by the market to five reference banks at 11 am each working day. The banks are National Westminster Bank, Bank of Tokyo, Deutsche Bank, Banque Nationale de Paris, and Morgan Guaranty Trust.

EURO-CURRENCY INTEREST RATES (Market Closing Rates)

Sept. 23	Sterling	U.S.Dollar	Canadian Dollar	Dutch Guilder	Swiss Franc	West German Mark	French Franc	Italian Lira	Asian $	Japanese Yen
†Short term	16¼-16½	10⅞-11⅛	10-11½	9-9¼	½-1	8¾-8⅞	11½-11¾	14-22	11-11⅛	22-23
7 days' notice	16½-16¾	11-11¼	10-11½	9⅜-9 9/16	6-6⅛	8¾-8⅞	11½-11¾	19-22	11 1/16-11 3/16	20½-21½
Month	16⅝-16⅝	11 1/16-11 3/16	10¼-10⅝	9 11/16-9⅞	5 7/16-5 9/16	8 11/16-8 13/16	11 15/16-12 1/16	21¾-23¾	11⅞-12	15⅜-15⅝
Three months	15⅝-15⅞	12⅛ 12⅜	10¾-11⅛	9 15/16-10	5⅝-5¾	8 7/16-8 9/16	12-12¼	24¼-25¼	12 1/16-12 3/16	13¼-13¾
Six months	15⅛-15⅜	12 1/16 12 5/16	11½-11⅞	10-10⅛	5⅞-6	8 7/16-8 9/16	12⅜-12⅝	25½-26½	13⅛-13¼	12-12¼
One Year	14⅛-14⅜	12 11/16-12 15/16	11⅞-12¼	10-10⅛	5¾-5⅞	8¼-8⅜	12⅝-12⅞	24-25	12 13/16-13 1/16	10⅜-10⅝

Long-term Eurodollar two years 12¾-13 per cent; three years 12¾-13 per cent; four years 12¾-13 per cent; five years 12¾-13 per cent nominal closing rates. *Short-term rates are call for sterling, U.S. dollars, Canadian dollars and Japanese yen; others two-days' notice. Asian rates are closing rates in Singapore.*
The following nominal rates were quoted for London dollar certificates of deposit one-month 11.30-11.40 per cent; three-months 11.95-12.05 per cent; six-months 12.35-12.45 per cent; one year 12.55-12.65 per cent.

INTERNATIONAL MONEY MARKET

Belgian rates steady

Interest rates in Belgium were mostly unchanged yesterday, with credit conditions remaining fairly *tight as a result of the latest state* bond issue, which has been taking up excess funds. There was speculation late last week that the authorities may move to cut the official discount rate from its current level of 12 per cent, especially after a similar move by the Netherlands on Friday and a recent reduction in West Germany's Lombard rate. Many dealers remain sceptical however, pointing out that the Belgian franc is still fairly weak within the European Monetary System and that the latest rise in Saudi Arabian oil prices, where Belgium obtains most of her oil, could only help to worsen the already large balance of payments deficit. Yesterday one-month deposits for the Belgian franc were quoted at 12 *per cent*, unchanged *from* Monday, with the six-month rate also static at 13 per cent.

In Paris call money rose to 11¼ *per cent from 11 3/16 per cent on* Monday, while longer term rates were firmer by up to a quarter of a point.

In *Frankfurt call* money was quoted at 9 per cent, unchanged from previously, but one-month money rose to 8.82½ per cent from 8.70 per cent, and the six-month rate was higher at 8.72½ per cent against 8.60 per cent.

MONEY RATES

NEW YORK

Prime Rate	12½
Fed. Funds	10⅞-11
Treasury Bills (13-week)	10.52
Treasury Bills (26-week)	10.94

GERMANY

Discount Rate	7.50
Overnight Rate	9.00
One month	8.825
Three months	8.825
Six months	8.725

FRANCE

Discount Rate	9.5
Overnight Rate	11.50
One month	11.6875
Three months	12.0625
Six months	12.1875

JAPAN

Discount Rate	8.25
Call (Unconditional)	11.375
Bills Discount (three-month)	11.64875

UK MONEY MARKET

Further shortage

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 16 per cent (from July 3, 1980)

Day to day credit continued to be in short supply in the London discount market yesterday, and the authorities gave assistance on an extremely large scale. This comprised small purchases of Treasury bills both from discount houses and banks, and small purchases of local authority bills, all from discount houses. In addition, the authorities entered into another sale and repurchase agreement *involving a very large number* of eligible bank bills. Discount houses were paying around 15¾ per cent for secured call loans at the start, with later balances taken as cheaply as 14 per cent.

The market was faced with the unwinding of previous sale and repurchase agreements on an *exceptionally large number of* bills, and in addition, banks brought forward balances a small way below target. On the other hand there was a moderate excess of Government *disbursements* (including rate support grant) over revenue transfers to the Exchequer.

GOLD

Erratic movements

Gold closed $4½ an ounce higher at $714-718 in the London bullion market yesterday, having moved erratically between a high of $720-722 and a low of $698-705. *The low was touched soon after* rumours claiming the release of the U.S. hostages in Iran. Lack of confirmation saw the metal recover to an afternoon fixing level of $711, before improving further towards the close.

In Paris the 12½ kilo bar was fixed at FFr 94,500 per kilo ($699.82 per ounce) compared with FFr 95,980 ($708.25) in the morning and FFr 93,000 ($691.92) on Monday afternoon.

In Frankfurt the 12½ kilo bar fixed at DM 42,010 per kilo ($719.50 per ounce) against DM 40,465 ($700.52) previously, and *closed at $709-712, unchanged* from Monday.

In Zurich gold finished at $713-717 compared with $708-711 previously.

	Sept. 23		Sept. 22	
	Gold Bullion (fine ounce)			
Close	$714-718	(£297¼-298¾)	$710-713	(£295½-296¾)
Opening	$712-715	(£294½-296¾)	$701-704	(£292¾-294)
Morning fixing	$720.50	(£298.28)	$698.75	(£291.876)
Afternoon fixing	$711	(£295.880)	$710	(£296.204)
	Gold Coins			
Krugerrand	$730-732	(£303½-305½)	$736-737	(£305½-307½)
Mapleleaf	$724½-728½	(£301½-305½)	$730-733	(£303½-305½)
New Sovereigns	$181-182	(£75¼-76¼)	$180½-182	(£75-76)
King Sovs	$204-206	(£85-87)	$205-207	(£85¼-86¼)
Victoria Sovs	$204-206	(£85-87)	$205-207	(£85¼-86¼)
French 20s	$168-171		$171½-174½	
50 pesos Mexico	$878-881		$879-882	
100 Cor. Austria	$697-700		$696-700	
$20 Eagles	$804-807		$802-805	
$10 Eagles	—		—	
$5 Eagles	—		—	

LONDON MONEY RATES

Sept. 23 1980	Sterling Certificate of deposit	Interbank	Local Authority deposits	Local Auth. negotiable bonds	Finance House Deposits	*Company* Deposits	Discount market deposits	Treasury Bills ‡	Eligible Bank Bills ‡	Fine Trade Bills ‡
Overnight	—	14¾-16⅝	—	—	—	16¾-16⅝	14-16	—	—	—
2 days notice	—	—	16⅜	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7 days or	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7 days notice	—	16¼-16⅜	16⅜-16½	—	16½	16¾-16⅞	15½-18¾	—	—	—
One month	16 1/16-16	16⅜-16½	16½	17¼-17⅝	16⅝	16⅞	15⅝	14⅞	16⅛	16⅞
Two months	16 1/16-15 15/16	16⅛ 16¼	—	17-17¼	16⅜	—	14¾-15	14⅞	15 15/16-15¾	16⅜
Three months	15 11/16-15 9/16	15 13/16-15 15/16	15⅞	15⅞-16¼	16⅛	16⅛-16⅜	14½-14⅝	14⅝-14⅛	15⅛	16
Six months	14⅞-14⅝	14⅞-15	14⅞-15	14⅝-15	15¼	15⅛	—	—	15 1/16-15⅞	15¼
Nine months	14-13⅞	14¼-14⅝	—	14½-14⅞	15	15	—	—	—	—
One Year	13⅝-13½	13⅞-14	14-14⅛	14-14⅝	14¼	14¾	—	—	—	—
Two years	—	—	13⅝-13⅞	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

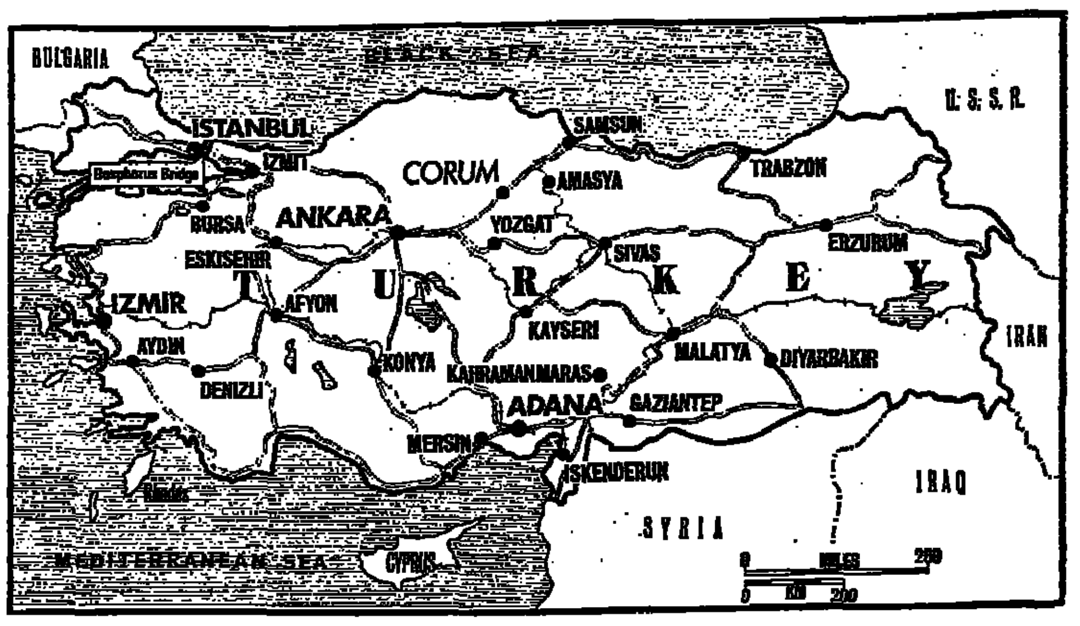
Local authority and finance houses seven days' notice, others seven days' fixed. Long-term local authority mortgage *rates nominally* three years 13½-13¾ per cent; four years 13½ per cent; five years 13¾ per cent. ‡ Bank bill rates in table are buying rates for prime paper. Buying rates for four-month bank bills 14 25/32-14¾ per cent; four-month trade bills 15¼ per cent.

Approximate selling rate for one-month Treasury bills 14 25/32 per cent; two-months 14 11/32-14¾ per cent; three-months 14 5/16-14 11/32 per cent. Approximate selling rate for one-month bank bills 15 5/32 per cent; two-months 15 9/32-15 5/16 per cent; *three-months 15 per cent; one-month trade bills 16¾ per cent; two-months 16⅛ per cent; and three-months 15⅝ per cent.*

Finance Houses Base Rates (published by the Finance Houses Association) 16½ per cent from September 1, 1980. Clearing Bank Deposit Rates for sums at seven days' notice 14 per cent. Clearing Bank Rates for lending 16 per cent. Treasury Bills: Average tender rates of discount 14.1316 per cent.

Uneasy peace returns to Turkey

DAVID TONGE and **METIN MUNIR** report from Corum, once a symbol of Turkey's troubles. The town now offers a glimpse of the peace which the generals hope to bring to the country, as well as of the problems they face.



"BEFORE the coup it was a massacre, now it is almost a festival for us." The speaker was a Turkish Alevi driving a tractor laden with seven members of his family and his household goods. He was on his way back to his home in Corum, a town which two months ago was wreathed in smoke and gun fire.

More than 60 people died in sectarian riots as mobs of Sunni Moslems ransacked the shops and houses of the Alevi minority. Corum became divided into the no-go areas seen in cities such as Belfast. But, once a symbol of the troubles racking Turkey, it now offers a glimpse of the peace that the generals who seized power on September 12 hope to bring to the country—as well as of the problems that the generals face.

Now a few Alevis are moving warily back to pick up the pieces. Their children are starting to return to schools, and the occasional shop owner is closing his stall in the roadside market which had sprung up in the Alevi district to open up *his pillaged shop in the market* in the centre of town.

The Alevi on the tractor had been a doorman at a Government office. "In July we left in a hail of bullets," he said. "We have spent the last two months squashed in my daughter's house in the Alevi area of Milonu. There were 16 of us in three rooms. My losses total TL 200,000 (£1,000), which is 16 months salary for me. My 15-year-old son lost his job in a furniture workshop when the owner fled to Istanbul. He now thinks he may come back to Corum."

Around 600 people have been rounded up in Corum since the coup and locked away in a sports hall and the local barracks. Around 500 further troops were brought into the town the night of the coup. The town was put under a curfew—which has now been restricted to the small hours of the morning—and road blocks search every car. But one soldier when asked if he had found any guns would only reply: "The Turks are gentlemen. They do not carry weapons."

The doorman who lived on the borderline between the two communities was now prepared to take the risk of moving home again. But a 20-year-old housewife in a small shack explained why she would be staying as far from the Sunnis as possible. "When my *father-in-law* heard the mob gathering outside his house he said that if his property were burnt he would stay and be burnt with it. Three days later we found his corpse. It was lying outside a coal shop. It was covered with burns. Before he died they had beaten him, pulled out his fingernails and gouged out one eye."

Other women told how only the arrival of the army had *saved them from being burnt* inside their houses. And one Alevi prison warden described how a group of young Sunnis had strung him and three friends from a tree, trussing their feet to their hands. "They laid a bonfire under us, then went away saying that they would wait until dusk before lighting it. Luckily we managed to free ourselves and escape."

The Alevis are Turkey's equivalent of the Shi'ites, respecting Caliph Ali and taking a much more relaxed attitude than the Sunnis to the prescriptions of the Koran. They account for about 30 per cent of Turkey's Moslems and are believed to be the descendants of the nomadic Turkoman tribes which moved into Anatolia 1,000 years ago. Their women wear head scarves rather *than the shapeless chador* common among the Sunnis.

In the past they often looked to Iran rather than to Ottoman power in Istanbul but today few of them are struck by the Ayatollah Khomeini. One of their traditions is to bring their relatives together once a year at *Persian New Year for a picnic* on the family grave. Many believe in some mystical millenium when a leader will come and lift them from the relative poverty in which they live.

To many Sunnis the Alevis are not Moslems at all. A few extremists even believe that if they kill an Alevi they will go to paradise for slaying an unbeliever. The Sunnis form the majority of Turkey's Moslems and tend to be richer than the Alevis. They are an orthodox sect and in Ottoman times followed the tradition imposed by the Sultans of accepting the dominance of the state.

There is an old Sunni saying that 60 years of tyranny are better than one hour of civil strife. There is also the precept of Kemal Ataturk, the founder of modern Turkey, that the Turk should honour every faith. But on May 29 the first clashes broke out in Corum. Two people died in these and barricades divided the town. A further 60 lost their lives when the rioting erupted again in July and helicopters were brought in to reinforce the army.

As in most of Turkey the Sunnis are better off than the Alevis. The brick *factories on* the way into town are Sunni, as are most of the main shops. The tensions used to be expressed through politics rather than religon. The Sunnis tended to support the right-wing parties—the conservative Justice Party of Mr. Suleyman Demirel, and the Nationalist Action Party (NAP), a neo-Fascist party which has been growing in strength.

The Alevis have traditionally supported the Republican People's Party (RPP)—a left of centre party headed by Mr. Bulent Ecevit, the former Prime Minister, which is now banned, like all other parties.

A recent inflow of Alevis to the town has upset the Sunnis' traditional control. The RPP won the last two municipal elections and annoyed the Sunnis by allocating more funds to the *Alevi area*.

But the real trouble only began after Mr. Gun Sazak, a leading organiser of the Nationalist Action Party's commandos, was shot dead on May 27. The NAP decided to make an example in Corum and sent two bus loads of its young militants there. The next day teachers were attacked as they left school and chased through the town by NAP mobs. The police did nothing to stop this, instead firing over the heads of the teachers. Barricades went up in the Alevi areas. They only *came down after the army was* brought in.

The first army commander established a reputation for being even handed. He was soon replaced by one who gave the NRP a freer hand. Alevis used to find their homes marked with a cross and their shops with an order from the NAP saying get out.

"We were *told* the Alevis were going on their balconies and shooting in the air and saying they would come and get us," one Sunni shopowner's wife says today. Then on July 4 shouts that a bomb had gone off outside a mosque interrupted the Friday noon prayers. The *mullah* now tells visitors that he vainly shouted that it was a sin to leave prayers unfinished. But most of the Sunnis inside left and the killing began.

Corum lies 160 miles north of Ankara and is a typical bustling provincial capital. Though close to the sites of the old Hittite kinds who sacked Babylon in 1594 BC, it has little history. In Turkey it used to be best known for its *leblebi*, a roasted chick pea. At this time the roads around town are lined with tractors *bringing in a record grain crop.*

It is one of the towns lying on the broad swathe of tension which has afflicted rural Anatolia in recent years. The area runs in a deep crescent around Ankara, from Corum through Yozgat, where the Nationalist Action Party had complete mastery before the coup, out to the east and down to the remote towns near the Syrian border such as Kahraman-Maras. It is in this area that the NAP has been exploiting the differences between the sects: the massacre of 1,154 people at Kahramanmaras at Christmas, 1978, led to the declaration of martial law.

Four years ago the World Bank became involved in a $160m rural development project in the province of Corum and the neighbouring Cankiri. The aim was to raise the standard of living in an area where incomes and literacy are lower than the national average and where income disparities are far greater. Byt the time the project ends next year one-third of the 1,200 villages should have electricity and around *half* of them have proper drinking water supplies. Three irrigation dams have been built. Some remote villages are being connected to the road system and farmers are being given credit and advice.

Grain yields are about 50 per cent higher than before the project began and further increases are expected—a crucial *point in a land where agricul*tural productivity has to keep growing to match one of the higher rates of population increase in the world.

In Corum itself the sectarian clashes were so intense that it is only now that people are again beginning to focus on the other main problem, making ends meet in a country racked by inflation which last year exceeded 100 per cent, and in recent months has been over 40 per cent at an annual rate.

"There are seven of us, my wife and I, three children, a daughter-in-law and my grandson," the Alevi doorman explained. "Winter is coming on and we have snow from November to March. Even if I can find coal I do not know if I will be able to afford it. Food for us all costs me three-quarters of my monthly take home pay of TL 12,000 (£60)."

Worst hit have been state employees who make up almost one-fifth of the heads of the town's families, but workers in factories and workshops also complain, as do shopowners who find that consumer durables are sitting on their shelves instead of being bought as a hedge against inflation. People seem to be running out of money, one shopowner complained.

In the villages it is a different tale. There the people burn animal dung for heating and thus have survived recent winters. But they complain that their standard of living, already low, has *fallen*.

On the way to Corum two fresh slogans had been written beside the road. The first, on a hut beside a field of sunflowers, was by the Nationalist Action Party and warned: "No Communist will remain unpunished." The second, by the Communist Party of Turkey, reads: "The martyrs of the Corum massacre will be revenged." Six hours later the second one had been painted over.

But healing the wounds of *the summer will be less easy*. The optimists argue, like one Sunni teacher, that the people have learnt the cost of following the NAP's incitement in the name of Islam and revenge: they also promised work in a city where there are not enough factories, but it was all a sham, he said. The Air Force colonel running martial law also seemed relaxed, agreeing with one resident that there had not even been a traffic accident since the coup. But a young Alevi student was more worried: "It is only a matter of *time before the troubles begin* again. The Right are being cautious but they know the seeds of hatred have been watered with blood."

Technical Page

EDITED BY ARTHUR BENNETT AND ALAN CANE

● MATERIALS

Discourages insects

SAFETY AND effectiveness are what the Wellcome Foundation *is claiming for its new insect* proofing compound, Perigen.

The compound has been designed *specifically for* application to wool and wool-blended fabrics, *where it is claimed to* be effective at very low concentrations—the common clothes moth finds Perigen too much for it at concentrations of 0.15 per cent on wool fibres, while the carpet beetle cannot stand a *concentration of* 0.20 per cent.

Wellcome's new proofer, which will be marketed by Stephenson Brothers of Bradford, contains 10 per cent permethrin, one of the new generation of synthetic pyrethroids—these are light stable and show low toxity towards mammals. The compound is also biodegradable which should satisfy most conservationists' safety criteria.

Most insect proofers up to now have been colourless acid *dyestuffs or recognised insecticides* such as dieldrin. Dieldrin *is, of course, an organo-chlorine* compound, which has raised anxieties over safety—furthermore, some insects have developed immunity to the chemical.

Wellcome claims that Perigen is stable in boiling acid dye*baths and is compatible with* commonly used dyes, dyebath auxiliaries and other dyebath components. It does not stain or colour wool, Wellcome says, and is not preferentially absorbed by nylon. It is therefore suitable for proofing wool/polyamide blends without the need to increase the application rate.

More from Stephenson Brothers on 0274 23811.

Protects woodwork

THREE finishing materials just introduced *which have been* formulated for the protection of new exterior woodwork are claimed to have far greater *durability than the usual gloss* paints used for this purpose.

*The new paints are being pro*duced by Berger of Freshwater *Road,* Dagenham. *Essex RM8* 1RU (01-590 6030) which describes them as semi-perme*able as they allow the timber* to "breathe out" but prevent *moisture from entering* the surface.

Brand-named XTP, the finishes are a brilliant white *gloss,* a matt finish and a natural stain. A clear preservative. a primer *and* a knotting compound are also offered.

● METALWORKING

Shapes the metal

DEVELOPED in conjunction with Linderfort of Bletchley, Bucks, two completely new spark erosion machines are being marketed by B-H Machinery a member of the Butterfield-Harvey Group.

These *new 100 amp and 200* amp machines are claimed to *herald a new generation of this* type of equipment. They in*corporate some well tried* and tested components, says B-H *Machinery*, including a servo-operated head having anti-friction backlash-free bearings, together with a sophisticated control console which eliminates short-circuit conditions.

A *specially designed 'Z' axis* dial-in programming system is *also offered. This simplifies* the setting up and operating *procedures* and outdates conventional tape or computer *controlled systems*, adds the company.

● DIALYSIS

Micro runs artificial kidney

AN ARTIFICIAL *kidney for* home dialysis has been developed by *A. T. Ramot* Plastics, a subsidiary of the Applied Research Authority of Tel Aviv University.

Brief-cased sized and weighing only 17 kgms, it is *said to* make kidney sufferers indepen*dent from hospital schedules* and frees hospital personnel for other purposes. The artificial kidney incorporates a micro-processor control system which monitors and controls kidney functions and operates almost automatically *so that patients can dialyse while asleep, enabling* them to lead a near-normal life during the daytime.

The prototype, now in the advanced stages of clinical testing prior to commercial production, has the additional *advantage that it uses ordinary* tap water, whereas other systems require large amounts of special solutions and distilled water.

The mechanism that makes tap water usable has a variety of other important applications, including the desalination of *brackish or seawater, as well as preparation of sterile water free* of bacterial products for *laboratory* and pharmaceutical and medical uses.

The artificial kidney operates on a reverse osmosis *system* which sterilises and purifies water by *high pressure filtration* through special membranes.

Ramot's special membranes are not permeable to bacteria, viruses, salts or even to extremely low molecular weight organic solutes (substances which can be dissolved in others) such as urea.

LORE DANIEL

● HANDLING

Carries materials a long way

RECOVERY AND conveyance of wet or dry materials over considerable distances—horizontally and vertically—is the purpose of the Hyvac machine whose principle of operations is claimed to enable vacuum performances to be attained which *are almost double the performance* of machines in current use.

Sludges, *powders or solids*—cement, PFA, coal/coke, mill *scale, aggregates, grain, oil* sludge etc—can be captured *from silos, tanks, ship holds*, conveyed by pipelines and *gravity discharged* or pneumatically taken long dis*tances within a production* installation for re-cycling, or *into other containers for off*-site removal.

It is a completely portable trailer mounted unit but can be alternatively mounted on a standard semi-trailer or a "Rolonof" or ISO type sub-frame for transport to and from *site of operations* by a suitable container handling vehicle, *announces HMF Materials* Handling Company, Brackla *Industrial Estate, Bridgend*, Mid Glamorgan (0656 4780).

This system incorporates a high efficiency vacuum pump *capable of producing* up to 27 inch H.G. vacuum working in conjunction with an integral air compressor and powered by a diesel power unit linked to dual pressure vessels.

The design (on which full patents are pending) enables large volumes of materials to be conveyed through four inch diameter pipelines over distances of up to 350 feet on the *suction side*, while simultaneously blowing up 800 feet *on the discharge side*.

Due to the high vacuum, *pipeline* blockages are greatly reduced, with less wear due to lower velocities.

Materials can be lifted vertically up to 45 feet, and pumped vertically up to 125 feet, and can also be pumped directly into tankers, hoppers or silos.

● DATA PROCESSING

Eases collection of data

A HAND-HELD terminal and a *collection* of special duty printers launched by UCSL Microsystems (a Unilever company) should make portable data collection tasks a good deal easier.

Called M50 Alpha, the hand held unit has separate alphabetic keys so that there is little need to make use of dual function buttons by pressing a shift key—in fact up to 97 per cent of all alphanumeric entry can be performed without shift.

The M50 Alpha in addition to offering full alphanumeric entry is designed to hold *custom-programmed* applications and for two-way com*munications* (the *unit* has a large, easily read alphanumeric *display*). *The company believes* that M50 opens up the prospect of much more hand-held terminal usage—for example in personnel and accountancy departments where such data is continually gathered for the computer. Other areas include market research, salesmen order entry and merchandising.

At the same time the company has introduced three printers that can be used in conjunction with the M50 Alpha, in desk top, attache case and mobile (vehicle) versions.

In each case the portable terminal (M50 Alpha or the company's other M50 terminals) is nested on to the front panel to give mechanical and electrical connection, making the keyboard part of the printer.

Thus, the hand-held unit can be *plugged* in and its internal memory contents — data accumulated over a day say—can be turned into a permanent record, at the user's convenience.

This machine works from the mains while the other two units, offering similar facilities, are powered either from a vehicle battery or internal batteries.

More from 184 High Street, Berkhamsted, Herts. HP4 2AG (04427 71741).

● COMPONENTS

Striking the right key for the future

PUTTING ITSELF into a strong *position* for the predicted information revolution over the next *decade, or two is Cherry* Electrical Products, which has just moved into a 56,000 sq ft factory at Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

Apart from considerable production of light duty electrical *switches, it will be concentrat*ing on that essential first interface of man with his computer based information—the keyboard.

The market for keyboards that manufacturers can build *into data products has expanded* at least 25 per cent a year for some time, and will probably accelerate still further with the growth of national and company based information systems based on Viewdata—quite apart *from growing* conventional computer terminal markets and *hand-held data collection units*.

Leaving out the attached (in-house) market attributable to IBM and other majors, the world market for keyboards is probably in the region of $200m a year. After only two years of keyboard manufacture in the UK Cherry already turns over about £1.5m in this country.

Its U.S parent, Cherry Corporation has a turnover of about $90m, about half of it in keyboards, and fired with *success the corporation* had recently purchased a small semi conductor company (*Micro*components Corporation) so that it can make its own solid state sensors for the motor vehicle industry in the U.S., where it is already quite strong.

A new $10m plant is being built at *Providence Rhode Island* and already the corporation has factories in Germany, Japan and Brazil.

The operation at Harpenden *is geared to volume production* of light duty units ranging from door switches for photocopiers to coin operated switched for vending machines. Production rates of individual switches for keyboard use of 150 an hour are typical while up to 10,000 metal parts an hour are being punched out. *Soon the com*pany will make plastic mouldings for keyboard buttons in-house. It is currently designing a machine that will automatically insert keys into the rectangular holes of the keyboard. The Harpenden work force has reached 160 and is growing.

United Kingdom keyboard customers of Cherry include ITT and British Telecom. For the latter *it is making the informa*tion providers' keyboard for Prestel.

Recent developments have included a slim key switch M81 which allows keyboard height to be reduced to 11.5 metres. It is just going into production.

The company also builds smaller keyboards using conical *rubber springs as the return* element. It has also had designs *in* both magnetic and capacitive techniques, the latter for application where multi-key depression is needed.

For the future, the inclusion of further intelligence in the keyboard using a micro-processor is on the cards, allowing the keys on tomorrow's machine to have functions programme to suit many different industrial or office tasks within an organisation.

GEOFFREY CHARISH

● COMMUNICATIONS

Digital helps computers talk together

OPEN NETWORKING, net*works of computers of differing* makes all of which can communicate with each other, came a step closer last week when *Digital Equipment reaffirmed its* commitment to the most important data communications standard.

It announced at Scicob, the French computers and office equipment exhibition, the first products in a programme of developments which will support public packet-switched data networks using the X.25 protocol.

The new products make it possible for Digital computers and terminals to communicate with *any other computers using* either the French Transpac or *Canadian Datapac* packet switched networks.

When similar services are ready to be offered in the UK (Packet Switched Service or PSS), Germany (Datex-P), the Netherlands (DNI) and Telenet in the U.S., Digital says it will have appropriate products ready.

Packet switched networks are a method of transmitting data between one computer and *another along telephone lines*. Unlike voice communication lines, however, the sender and receiver are not connected while *the data is being transmitted*. The information is broken down into packets each of a certain length together with information which identifies the packet and indicates where it is destined for.

Once a packet has been despatched into the network from the issuing computer or terminal, its route to its destination is controlled by the network itself, which will decide the best route, *storing* the information at convenient points on the way and *utilising* the best avaliable data channels.

No one packet need necessarily follow another in *succession* along the route, and the packets need not arrive at their destination in the order in which they left the issuing computer. The computers in the data network take care of all the details.

The advantages of packet switched networks are *economics and standardisation*.

Because the cost of using *telephone lines is* high, data communications specialists have always concentrated on squeezing the maximum performance out of each line. On conventional telephone circuits, the users pay for the time the call was connected and the distance travelled, regardless of the amount of data transmitted. In a packet switched network, the user pays only for the amount of data transmitted.

Standardisation is, *if* anything, more important than the *economics. Each manufacturer* has its own ways of dealing with *data, but* common standards must be observed if its computers are to be linked into data networks, and communicate with each other.

X.25 is simply a code name for the most important standard in packet switching—the set of rules which defines the way computers or computer terminals are linked to packet switched networks. *It means* that the network can be regarded as a "*black box*" as long as all the manufacturers of *computers linked into* the network are using the X25 protocol. Data is entered into one side of the network and emerges at the appropriate point elsewhere.

What is important about Digital's new announcements is that it is by far the biggest manufacturer of minicomputers—and more significantly interactive minicomputers — in the world.

Interactive working, where the user can hold a dialogue with the computer (or more exactly with the programs running within the computer) is a major use of packet switching.

Digital has been developing a programme to provide X.25 software on its 16, 32 and 36 bit computer systems since 1975 and the X.25 interface was incorporated into its Digital Network Architecture (DNA), Digital's own communications architecture. The programme is called Packetnet. So far the first products of the programme are *the software systems which* allows Digital computers to *communicate with the French* Transpac and the Canadian Datapac services.

INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES and FINANCE

Strong fourth quarter lifts U.S. Shoe earnings

BY OUR FINANCIAL STAFF

A SUBSTANTIAL upswing in profits in the final quarter has lifted U.S. Shoe's earnings for fiscal 1980 above previous forecasts. The Board said the upturn reflected gains in specialty retailing as well as strong shipments by the shoe wholesaling divisions. These two operations traditionally provide equal shares of total profits.

For the full year U.S. Shoe has lifted earnings by 14 per cent to $33.2m or $4.63 a share. Previous forecasts were for earnings of $4.60 a share, with perhaps a slight rise in fiscal 1981.

But the final quarter saw a jump of 95 per cent in profits to $7.6m or $1.02 a share, although sales at $218.3m gained only 7.6 per cent. The gain on sales over the full year, however, was less than 1 per cent to $932.6m.

The company said that higher-than-normal inventory markdowns in the fiscal 1979 fourth quarter did not recur in the fiscal 1980 period because of more effective inventory control.

U.S. Shoe plans to open more than 50 new speciality apparel retail stores in fiscal 1981, raising the total to more than 600 from 573 at the end of fiscal 1980.

More than 100 Concept shoe stores will be opened in fiscal 1981 which after a similar number of openings in 1980, would bring the total to 450.

In 1979, U.S. Shoe moved earnings ahead from $3.84 a share to $4.16 on sales of $831.2m. Prospetcs for the long term are expected to receive a further boost from the speciality apparel stores, notably the Casual Corner women's footwear and August Max stores.

Also, the company's resistance to the slackening in U.S. consumer spending during part of fiscal 1980 was strengthened by its well established brand names which rate high on lists of customer awareness.

Of the 65 per cent of group sales accounted for last year by footwear operations, the bulk came in the form of manufacturing and wholesaling operations. But U.S. Shoe also imports footwear, notably from Italy and Mexico.

Dravo awarded Hylsa licence

By William Chislett in Mexico City

HYLSA, the private Mexican steel company, which is part of Grupo Industrial Alfa, the country's largest holding company, has signed an engineering and construction agreement with Dravo Corporation of Pittsburgh for the new HYL direct reduction iron making process.

The new process is a streamlined version of the original patent by Hylsa. The basic difference is that the new process uses a single shaft furnace instead of the previous four.

Hylsa developed the first commercial process for the direct reduction of iron ore to sponge iron, which is achieved by passing heated natural gas over the ore. The sponge iron is a suitable feedstock for electric arc steel furnaces.

Hylsa said the new licensing agreement did not interfere with existing arrangements for earlier versions of the HYL process.

Crouse-Hinds moves to complete Belden merger

BY OUR FINANCIAL STAFF

CROUSE-HINDS, the Syracuse-based electrical group, moved yesterday toward completing its merger with Belden, a wire and cable manufacturer, while it stepped up its defence against the takeover offer of InterNorth, a natural gas distributor.

Crouse-Hinds filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission covering the issue of 2.1m of its shares in exchange for up to 1.7m Belden shares.

It will exchange 1.24 of its shares for each Belden share tendered, the ratio agreed in the merger document signed by the two companies on September 8. The exchange offer will be made as soon as possible.

Crouse-Hinds has also filed suit charging InterNorth with violating securities laws in connection with its tender offer for 6.7m Crouse-Hinds' shares which was made on September 12. Crouse's board had rejected the offer.

Crouse-Hinds said its lawsuit, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York, seeks a judgement that InterNorth's offer was started illegally, and requests that if the offer is made at all, it must be started again and remain open for 20 days.

Crouse-Hinds has also requested an order prohibiting the InterNorth offer from being made, alleging that InterNorth violated various Federal and State securities laws.

Belden won a restraining order against InterNorth's offer last week on the grounds that it interfered with Belden's prospective business advantage.

Belden had earlier agreed to merge into Crouse-Hinds and InterNorth has made it a condition of tender offer that the Belden-Crouse offer be terminated.

FT INTERNATIONAL BOND SERVICE

The list shows the 200 latest international bond issues for which an adequate secondary market exists. For further details of these or other bonds see the complete list of Eurobond prices published on the second Monday of each month.

Closing prices on September 23

U.S. DOLLAR STRAIGHTS	Issued	Bid	Offer	Change on day	Change on week	Yield
Brit. Oxygen F. 10¾ 90	50	83	83½	−0¼	−0¾	13.97
CECA 11½ 88	100	89½	90	−0⅞	−0⅜	12.58
Citicorp O/S Fin. 10 86	300	93¼	93¾	−0⅞	−1¼	12.85
Con. Illinois O/S 9¾ 86	150	87⅝	88⅛	−0⅝	−1⅛	12.82
Denmark 11¾ 90	100	91⅞	92⅜	−0⅛	−0⅜	13.21
Dome Petroleum 13½ 92	50	100⅞	101⅜	−0¼	0	13.27
EEC 11 95	75	86⅜	86⅞	−0⅞	−0¾	13.07
EEC 11 95	70	86⅜	86⅞	−0¼	−1	13.09
EIB 11¾ 92	80	90¼	91	−0½	−0⅝	13.38
EIB 13¾ 90	100	102⅜	102⅝	−0½	−0½	13.25
Eksportfinans 11⅞ 87	50	94⅜	94⅞	−0¼	−0½	12.50
Eksportfinans 9½ 87	75	86⅛	86⅝	−0½	−0⅜	12.58
Elec. de France 10 88	125	87¾	88¼	−0⅛	−0⅜	12.48
Export Dv. Cpn. 12⅜ 87	100	99½	100	−0⅜	−0½	12.77
Export Dv. Cpn. 9½ 86	150	87	87½	−0¼	−2⅞	12.93
Federal Dev. Bk. 12¼ 85	75	98⅜	98⅞	−0⅜	−1⅞	12.61
Fin. Exp. Credit 10½ 85	50	91	91½	−0½	−0¾	13.04
Finland Rep. of 9½ 86	100	86½	87	−0¼	−0¾	12.99
Ford O/S Fin. 12⅜ 85	250	96⅞	97⅜	−0½	−0½	13.44
George Weston 13½ 87	30	99	99½	−0⅜	−0½	12.63
GMAC O/S Fin. 11 84	100	94½	95	−0⅜	−0⅞	12.64
GMAC O/S Fin. 13⅜ 85	100	101⅛	101⅝	−0⅞	−1¼	12.90
Goodyear O/S 12½ 87	75	97	97½	−0⅜	−0⅜	13.10
Hudson's Bay 11½ 90	75	92⅛	92⅝	−0⅜	−0⅜	12.89
IBM Canada 10½ 85	50	94⅜	94⅞	−0⅜	−0⅜	12.01
ICI Fin. Ned. 11 83	100	96	96½	−1⅛	−1¼	12.67
Int. Harvester 12¾ 85	115	97¾	98¼	−0½	−0⅝	13.31
McGraw 13½ 85	75	98⅞	99⅜	−0⅜	−0⅜	13.71
NorWest Ind. 13⅝ 87	50	99⅛	99⅝	−0⅜	−0½	13.72
Nova Scotia 10¾ 90	50	89⅜	89⅞	−0¾	−1⅝	12.64
OKB 10 85	50	91⅜	91⅞	−0⅜	−0⅞	12.39
Pembroke Capital 9⅝ 87	100	†86	86½	−1	−1⅜	12.74
Pemex 11½ 88	100	91¾	92¼	−0⅜	−0⅜	13.18
Quebec Hydro 11½ 92	100	90	90½	−0⅞	−1⅛	13.15
Repsteel O/S 11⅛ 88	100	86¼	87¼	−0⅞	−0⅜	14.35
Roylease Ltd. 11⅜ 85	50	95⅜	96⅛	−0⅜	−0⅜	12.42
SNCF 12⅝ 85	50	99⅝	100⅛	−0¼	−0½	12.38
Swed. Ex. Cred. 12½ 85	40	98	98½	−0¼	−0⅜	12.97
UB Finance BV 11 90	50	87⅛	87⅝	−0¼	−1⅜	13.36
Unilever NV 9¾ 90	100	83¾	84¼	−0⅜	−0⅛	12.67
World Bank 9⅜ 85	200	90	90½	−1⅛	−1½	12.58
World Bank 10⅛ 87	300	89⅝	90⅛	−0⅜	−1½	12.54

Average price changes... On day −0⅝ on week −0⅞

DEUTSCHE MARK STRAIGHTS	Issued	Bid	Offer	Change on day	Change on week	Yield
Akzo 9 90	125	100¼	101	−0⅜	−0⅛	8.89
Australia 8½ 90	250	99⅞	100⅜	−0⅜	0	8.07
BFCE 7¾ 87	100	96¼	96¾	−0⅜	0	8.47
BFCE 8½ 95	100	97½	98⅛	−0⅛	+0⅜	8.38
Brazil 8 87	150	86⅞	87⅜	−0⅞	−1½	10.71
Council of Eur. 7¾ 89	100	92⅞	93⅜	−1	−0⅜	8.37
Denmark 7⅞ 88	100	97¾	98½	−0½	+0⅛	8.31
Denmark 8¾ 92	100	98⅛	98⅞	−0⅛	−0¼	8.45
EEC 7⅞ 94	225	94⅝	95½	−1⅛	−1¼	8.51
Finland Rep. of 8 86	150	97⅜	98⅛	−0⅜	−0⅜	8.47
Iberduero SA 9 90	100	99	99¾	−0⅞	0	9.09
Kobe, City of 7⅞ 89	150	91¾	92½	−1⅛	−1⅛	8.40
Kobe, City of 8 90	100	98⅝	99⅛	−0½	−0¼	8.16
Mt. Bk. Denmark 8½ 90	150	98	98¾	−0⅜	−0½	8.74
Norway 7½ 85	250	99	99⅞	−0⅞	+0⅝	7.66
OKB 7⅞ 89	100	93½	94¼	−0⅜	−0¼	8.37
OKB 8¾ 92	150	98⅛	98⅞	−0⅛	−0⅛	8.45
Oslo, City of 8¾ 90	80	101⅛	101⅞	−0⅜	−0⅜	8.48
Sweden 9¾ 87	200	105½	106¼	−0⅜	−0⅞	8.52
World Bank 8 90	700	97	97¾	−0½	0	8.40
World Bank 7⅞ 90	250	95⅝	96⅛	−0⅞	−0½	8.53
World Bank 10 88	150	107⅝	108⅛	−0½	+0⅜	8.20
World Bank 10 90	200	107⅞	108⅝	−0¼	−0½	8.68

Average price changes... On day −0⅜ on week −0¼

SWISS FRANC STRAIGHTS	Issued	Bid	Offer	Change on day	Change on week	Yield
Austria Rep. of 5⅛ 90	100	97⅞	98⅛	−0⅜	−0⅛	5.64
Bergen, City of 4¾ 91	40	91	91¼	−0⅛	−1⅜	5.86
Bergen, City of 6 90	50	101¼	101½	+0⅛	−1	5.81
BMW Overseas 4¾ 91	100	86¾	87⅛	−0⅛	−3⅛	5.88
Buhrm'n-Tetterode 7 90	40	104	104¼	−0¼	−0⅜	6.40
Caisse Nat. Tele. 4¾ 89	100	90⅞	91⅛	−0¼	−1⅜	5.69
Copenhagen 4½ 91	60	†84	84½	−0⅛	−1⅞	6.55
Council of Eur. 5 89	100	†92	92½	−1⅞	−0⅜	6.13
Denmark 5¾ 90	80	98⅞	99⅛	−0½	−0½	5.88
EIB 4¾ 94	100	83¼	83½	−0⅜	−1	6.10
Elec. de France 4¾ 89	100	93	93¼	−0¼	−0⅛	5.37
F. G. H. Hypo. Bk. 6 90	50	†101	101½	−0⅜	−1⅜	5.82
Finland Rep. of 5⅜ 90	80	93	93¼	−0⅜	−1⅛	6.59
GZB 4⅜ 89	100	87¾	88¼	−0⅛	+1⅞	6.00
Hilti 4½ 91	35	†90	90½	−1	−0⅜	5.44
Int.-Amer. Dev. 4½ 89	100	90⅞	91⅛	−0¼	−0⅛	5.82
Int.-Amer. Dev. 7 90	80	104⅜	105	+0½	−0½	6.30
Jutland Tele. 5½ 90	50	†98	98½	0	+0¼	5.74
Malaysia 5 89	80	†87½	88	−0½	−0¾	6.86
Neweg 5⅜ 90	80	99⅞	100⅛	−0⅜	−1¼	5.75
Nippon Tel. & T. 4¾ 89	100	91	91¼	−0½	−4½	5.53
Norges Komm. 4⅜ 91	100	85¼	85½	−1¼	−2	6.25
OKB 4⅜ 91	100	85½	86	−0⅞	−1⅜	6.19
OKB 6 90	100	102¾	103	−0⅜	−0⅜	5.60
Oslo, City of 4¾ 91	100	85⅜	85⅞	−0⅜	−1⅜	6.19
Philips Lamps 5¼ 92	100	97⅜	97⅝	−0⅜	−1⅞	5.54
Sekisui Pre. Hms. 6 90	80	101	101¼	−1½	−1⅞	5.84
Shikoku El. Pwr. 4¾ 89	100	92½	92¾	−0½	−1½	5.83
World Bank 4¾ 89	150	89	89¼	+0½	+0¼	5.97
World Bank 4¾ 91	100	†88	89½	−0⅞	0	6.11

Average price changes... On day −0½ on week −1⅛

YEN STRAIGHTS	Issued	Bid	Offer	Change on day	Change on week	Yield
Australia 5.6 83	30	91¾	92¼	−0⅛	−0⅛	8.78
Australia 6½ 88	20	87⅞	88⅞	0	+0⅜	8.67
EIB 7¼ 89	12	96⅜	97½	0	0	8.26
Finland 5.6 83	12	90¾	91¾	0	−0¾	8.99
Finland 6.8 88	10	87¾	88¾	−0⅜	−0⅜	9.03
Finland, Rep. of 5⅜ 87	15	97	98¼	+0⅛	0	8.84

Average price changes... On day 0 on week 0

OTHER STRAIGHTS	Issued	Bid	Offer	Change on day	Change on week	Yield
Bell Canada 10⅜ 86 C$	60	91½	92¼	0	−0⅜	12.76
CIBC 13½ 85 C$	50	98⅞	99⅜	−0⅛	−0½	13.67
CIBC 11½ 85 C$	50	94¾	95	+0⅜	−1	13.00
Federal Dev. 11½ 90 C$	60	22	88¾	−0⅞	−0⅞	13.70
Fst. Can Inv. 10 84 C$	50	90	90½	−0⅜	−0¾	13.51
GMAC 12 85 C$	50	†93	94	−1½	−2¼	13.92
R. Bk. Canada 10 86 C$	40	91	91⅜	+0½	+0⅞	12.17
Tordom Cpn. 13½ 85 C$	30	99⅛	99⅞	0	−0⅛	13.59
M. Bk. Dnmk. 9 91 EUA	25	93⅞	95½	−0⅛	−0⅛	9.82
SOFTE 8¾ 89 EUA	40	88⅞	90½	+0¼	+0⅜	10.13
U. Bk. Nrwy 9½ 90 EUA	18	99⅜	100⅜	+0⅜	+0¼	9.48
Algemene Bk. 8½ 84 Fl	75	96½	97	0	+0¼	9.28
Algemene Bk. 10¼ 87 Fl	400	100⅜	100⅞	−0⅜	+1	10.10
Bk. Mees & H. 10 85 Fl	75	101¼	101¾	0	+1½	9.58
Heineken NV 10 87 Fl	75	100¾	101¼	−0¼	+0¼	9.83
Norway 8¾ 84 Fl	100	96¼	96¾	−0½	0	9.33
Philips Lamps 8¾ 84 Fl	75	96	96½	−0⅛	0	9.59
Aero Paris 13⅛ 87 FFr	150	99¼	100¼	0	−0⅜	13.17
Air France 11 84 FFr	120	96⅜	97¼	−0⅛	+0¼	12.11
CECA 14¼ 86 FFr	150	104¼	105¼	−0¼	−0¾	12.97
Finland 11 84 FFr	80	92¼	93¼	−1¼	−1¼	13.42
Finland 11½ 89 FFr	70	90½	91½	−2	−2	13.26
Gaz de France 11 84 FFr	150	94¾	95¾	−0⅛	+0⅛	12.53
IBM France 11⅞ 84 FFr	120	95⅜	96⅜	−0⅛	+0⅜	13.24
Renault 9¾ 85 FFr	100	87⅜	88⅜	−0½	−0⅜	14.31
Solvay et Cie 9¾ 87 FFr	125	84½	85¾	0	−0⅛	13.38
Utd. Mex Sts. 14 85 FFr	150	100⅜	100⅞	−0½	−0½	13.79
Beneficial Fin. 14¼ 90 £	20	98⅛	98⅞	−0¼	−0⅜	14.50
Citicorp O/S 13½ 90 £	50	97⅜	98⅛	−0¼	−0⅜	13.88
EIB 11½ 91 £	25	88⅞	89⅝	−0¼	−0¼	13.42
Fin. for Ind. 12½ 89 £	30	93⅞	94⅝	−0¼	−0½	13.63
Fin. for Ind. 14½ 88 £	20	100½	101¼	−0⅛	−0⅜	14.25
Gen. Elec. Co. 12½ 89 £	50	95½	96⅛	0	−0¼	13.30
Peugeot SA 14 90 £	23	97⅜	98⅛	0	0	14.42
Rothschild 14¼ 90 £	12	98¾	99½	−0⅛	−0⅜	14.48
Swed. Ex. Cr. 15¾ 85 £	20	103	103¾	−0⅜	+0½	14.12
Banobras 8¼ 90 KD	7	†94	94½	0	+3⅜	9.16
CCCE 8¾ 91 KD	10	†89½	90	−3⅜	−3⅜	9.71
Sonatrach 8½ 90 KD	12	†92	92½	0	+0⅛	9.77
Akzo 9¼ 87 LuxFr.	500	93⅛	94⅛	0	0	10.56
Euratom 8 87 LuxFr	500	87¼	88¼	0	−0⅜	10.69
Euratom 9¾ 88 LuxFr	500	97⅜	98⅛	0	+0¼	10.18
EIB 9¾ 88 LuxFr	600	97¾	98¾	+0¼	−0¼	10.08
Volvo 9¾ 87 LuxFr	500	95⅝	96⅝	0	−0⅜	10.53

FLOATING RATE NOTES	Spread	Bid	Offer	C.dte	C.cpn	C.yld
Allied Irish Bk. 5¼ 87	0¼	98	98½	2/1	10.44	10.62
Bank of Ireland 5¼ 89	‡0¼	97¾	98¼	21/11	11⅜	11.61
Bank of Tokyo 5¼ 89	‡0⅛	97	97½	25/10	9¼	9.51
Barclays O/S Inv. 5 90	0¼	87½	88	13/12	8⅜	9.85
Bergen Bk. A/S 6 89	‡0¼	97⅜	98⅛	29/11	12¼	12.52
Bilbao Int. NV 5¾ 90	0¼	96⅞	97⅜	29/11	10.06	10.36
Citicorp O/S F. 83	§‡0	99¼	99¾	23/11	11.44	11.49
Citicorp O/S F. 84	‡0	99	99½	30/9	11.94	12.03
C. Itoh 5¾ 87	0¼	99⅝	100⅛	18/3	12⅞	12.89
Co-operative Bk. 6 86	0¼	98	98½	15/11	11.44	11.64
Creditanstalt 5½ 91	§‡0¼	98	98½	14/12	12.08	12.28
CNT 5⅜ 86	§0¼	100	100½	15/10	18⅛	18.08
GZB 5½ 89	‡0¼	97¾	98¼	1/11	9.81	10.01
Jugobanka 8 89	‡0¼	91½	92½	23/11	11⅜	12.57
Ind. Bank Japan 5¼ 87	0¼	99¼	99¾	15/10	18¾	18.87
Lloyds Eurofin 8 90 £	0¼	96¼	96¾	3/1	15¾	16.32
LTCB Japan 5¼ 86	0¼	99⅜	99⅞	13/12	9⅝	9.73
LTCB Japan 5½ 89	0¼	98	98½	7/12	10⅛	10.31
Mfrs. Han. O/S 5¼ 94	‡0⅛	98	98½	30/11	12⅛	12.34
Midland Intl. Fin. 5 89	0¼	97¾	98¼	20/12	9½	9.69
Midland Intl. Fin. 5¼ 92	0¼	97¾	98¼	5/12	10⅞	11.10
Nacional Fin. 6¾ 86	0¼	97⅜	98⅛	25/1	9.89	9.90
Nat West 5¼ 94	§0¼	98⅜	99⅛	11/10	18⅝	18.84
Nippon Credit 6½ 86	0⅜	97⅛	97⅝	12/1	9.56	9.81
Nippon Credit 5¼ 87	‡0¼	98⅜	98⅞	6/11	10⅞	11.03
Royal Bk. Scot. 5¼ 94	§‡0¼	99	99½	11/10	9.31	9.38
Soc. C. de Bque. 6½ 87	0¼	97⅞	98⅜	3/10	20.06	20.45
Standard Chart. 5¼ 90	0¼	99½	100	6/3	12.06	12.09
Svenska Hndlsbk. 5 87	0¼	98⅛	98⅝	15/1	10	10.17
Sweden 91	‡0¼	96⅝	97⅛	18/10	9.56	9.87
Williams & Glyn 5¼ 91	0¼	98⅜	99⅛	14/3	12.44	12.58
Bq. S. d'Alg. 4¾ 89 SF	0⅜	87	89	18/12	6⅛	6.96

Average price changes... On day 0 on week 0

CONVERTIBLE BONDS	Cnv. date	Cnv. price	Bid	Offer	Chg. day	Prem
AGA Akt'bolag 7¾ 89	10/79	145	†120	121	−1	−2.29
Ajinomoto 7¾ 95	2/80	615.5	123⅞	125⅛	−4⅛	−5.24
Alco Int. Fin. 9½ 94	1/80	40	96	97	+0¼	10.29
Apache I. Fin. 8¾ 95	12/80	21.12	†132	133	+0⅜	−5.12
Blocker Energy 8¾ 95	1/81	21.87	114⅜	116¼	+5¼	−7.28
Canon 6¾ 94	8/79	570	124⅞	126⅛	−2¼	6.25
Credit Suisse 4¾ 93	10/79	1278	115½	117½	−2	−2.83
Daiei Inc. 6½ 94	11/79	927.3	95¼	96½	−1⅛	22.00
DDKK 11 90	4/80	324	103⅜	105	−0⅜	18.50
Dynalectron 9½ 95	8/80	12.22	†113	114	+1½	4.88
Ensearch Fin. 9½ 94	7/80	30.25	†138½	139½	+1½	−1.34
INA Overseas 8¾ 2000	4/81	42	101	102	+0⅜	0.31
Inchcape Ltd. 8 95	2/81	4.55	108⅜	109⅜	0	−1.49
Meidensha Elec. 7 94	12/79	210	105	106	−4¼	1.32
MEPC 8¾ 96	2/81	2.47	107½	108½	+0⅜	9.37
Mitsubishi Cp. 6½ 94	10/79	549.1	126⅞	128⅛	−2½	−2.17
Ricoh 6⅜ 95	8/80	804	101⅜	102⅞	−2¼	0.47
SBC 6¾ 90	9/80	200	100	101¼	−0½	6.46
Toshiba Cpn. 7¾ 94	10/79	198	111½	112½	−3⅛	−1.27
Union Bk. Switz. 5 89	2/80	121.4	98	99½	−2¼	−0.46
Fujitsu 5 84 DM	7/79	475	113⅜	114⅜	−0⅞	0.84
Sharp Corp. 6½ 88 DM	9/80	595	108⅜	109⅜	−1⅜	−1.36
Uny Co. 6½ 85 DM	11/79	1071	95	96	−0½	17.68

* No information available—previous day's price.

† Only one market maker supplied a price.

Straight Bonds: The yield is the yield to redemption of the mid-price: the amount issued is in millions of currency units except for Yen bonds where it is in billions. Change on week = Change over price a week earlier.

Floating Rate Notes: Denominated in dollars unless otherwise indicated. Coupon shown is minimum. C.dte = Date next coupon becomes effective. Spread = Margin above six-month offered rate (‡ three-month; § above mean rate) for U.S. dollars. C.cpn = The current coupon. C.yld = The current yield.

Convertible Bonds: Denominated in dollars unless otherwise indicated. Chg. day = Change on day. Cnv. date = First date for conversion into shares. Cnv. price = Nominal amount of bond per share expressed in currency of share at conversion rate fixed at issue. Prem = Percentage premium of the current effective price of acquiring shares via the bond over the most recent price of the shares.

Data supplied by Inter-Bond Services (a subsidiary of dataSTREAM International).

Wall Street securities theft investigated

By Paul Betts in New York

THE FBI and the New York police are investigating what may turn out to be one of the largest thefts of securities from the vault of a Wall Street brokerage house.

The investigation follows the disappearance from the vault of Moseley, Hallgarten, Estabrook and Weeden, a Wall Street securities dealer, of a reported $12m of General Motors common shares during the summer. The theft was discovered during a routine audit check earlier this month.

One of the victims of the theft is understood to be Merrill Lynch, the largest securities firm in the world, which is said to have bought nearly $6m of the stolen GM securities in late July and August. Merrill Lynch is reported to have bought the stock for customers from a reputable Swiss firm.

But Merrill Lynch was subsequently notified this month by Moseley, Hallgarten that the entire block it had purchased was stolen. But other than the block bought by Merrill Lynch, the rest of the stolen stock so far does not appear to have surfaced.

While Moseley, Hallgarten has declined to comment on the theft and said the matter was being looked into by the police and the FBI, the firm has pointed out it was insured substantially against stock theft.

The affair is intriguing Wall Street as vaults are protected by high security and so far there appear to be no clues how these multiple security precautions could have been overcome.

Improvement at Jewel

By Our Financial Staff

JEWEL COMPANIES, the Chicago-based drug store and supermarket group, pushed up net profits from $14.1m to $16.72m in its second quarter to August 16 after a $1.48m increase to $5.25m in the contribution from its Aurrera retailing affiliate in Mexico.

Sales for the quarter totalled $1.23bn compared with $1.13bn for a six month total of $2.13bn ($1.95bn). Earnings per share were up from $1.26 to $1.49 for a half-year figure of $2.50 against $2.08.

The company said the combined operating earnings of its four supermarket divisions were below the 1979 level although sales were up by 5.3 per cent, which was below plan. There had been some improvement in sales in recent weeks, however.

The drug store subsidiary saw operating earnings jump 55.4 per cent on a 15 per cent gain in sales and losses at the Jewel T discount stores were in line with expectations.

Signal sees expansion

By Our Financial Staff

SIGNAL COMPANIES, which has been experiencing flat sales because the recession has affected its truck, automotive and construction-related businesses, expects this trend to continue until the economy improves, according to Mr. Dan Derbes, the president.

The company expects the resumption of its previous growth rate to then last for the next five years.

Mr. Derbes said the company's Mack Trucks division has been dramatically affected by the economic downturn and was currently operating "at or below break-even."

Signal also expects continued improvement in the margins of its UOP oil industry services and Garrett aircraft engine and component units.

But the rate of improvement is likely to slow to where it is more closely tied to sales growth in the next five years.

In the third quarter ended June 30, Signal reported earnings of $50.8m, or $1.32 a share, on sales of $1.04bn against $1.60 a share on sales of $1.06bn a year earlier.

Roadway ahead at nine months

By Our Financial Staff

A FURTHER advance in profits in the third quarter despite lower sales, has brought earnings for the first nine months at Roadway Express, the road freight group, to $42.8m or $2.18 a share. This compares with $33.5m or $1.66 a year ago, while sales of $776.2m have risen from $733.5m. But the 1980 figures exclude an extraordinary charge of $26.8m or $1.37 a share for the write off on operating rights as a result of the Motor Carrier Act, which took effect on July 1 this year.

The third quarter brought profits of $16.4m or 84 cents against $14.9m or 75 cents, on sales of $255.5m against $263.4m.

U.S. EXPANSION PLANS ALSO TO BE TRIMMED

Layoffs expected at Agache offshoot

BY TERRY DODSWORTH IN PARIS

BOUSSAC - SAINT - FRERES the textile subsidiary of the Agache Willot group, is expected to announce up to 2,000 redundancies this week, as the company cuts back output in the face of a severe slump in demand.

The company's plans which have leaked out gradually through the trade unions, follow only shortly after Agache decided to sell the heavily-indebted Korvettes stores group in the U.S. Agache explained at the time that it was being forced to trim back its expansion plans across the Atlantic because the U.S. recession and the rise in interest rates had turned Korvettes into a steady drain on parent company resources.

Meanwhile, AP-DJ reports from New York that Korvettes will close 14 of its 29 remaining stores by Christmas. Sam Nassi Associates, a major liquidator, said it was re-employing between 3,500 and 4,000 Korvettes employees to operate the remaining stores until the end of the year.

Korvettes said it will use the proceeds to meet $30m in unpaid bills to tradesmen and for other expenses, including severance pay for 30 to 40 per cent of its current work-force.

In France, the Agache group's problems are closely tied to the crisis in the ready-to-wear clothing industry, largely situated in the north of France, which is already hit by heavy unemployment.

Because of the difficult employment situation in the area, Boussac's reorganisation project is attracting considerable attention and has been criticised by M. Jean Matteoli, the Labour Minister. He said that the company should consult the Government before announcing detailed plans.

According to some estimates, the Boussac-Saint-Freres organisation formed partly from the former textile empire of the late M. Marcel Boussac, is still losing money heavily. In a recent critical report on the company, the French stock exchange regulatory authority, the COB, said that Boussac must establish a better working capital base.

At the same time, the Agache group's bankers have recently told the company that it must sell off some assets in order to reduce its short term debts, estimated at between FFr 400m ($953.6m) and FFr 500m ($1.4bn) at present. The company admitted that the banks were demanding extensive changes in exchange for continuing their support.

INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL MARKETS

Gulf tensions bring little change

BY FRANCIS GHILES

INTERNATIONAL BOND markets were little affected yesterday by the mounting tension in the Middle East. In the straight dollar sector of the market prices dropped by about one point across the board during the morning but recovered later on to close about ⅝ of a point down on the day.

The fall in prices was essentially caused by dealers marking prices down, rather than to any great selling pressure from investors.

Prices of foreign D-Mark bonds also slipped by about ¼ of a point on the day. Dealers cited a number of factors behind this fall, including the strengthening of the dollar on the foreign exchange market and the falls of up to one point in the domestic bond market.

Many bankers also say they were taken aback by the large size of the new issue calendar for October in the foreign D-Mark sector, which could run to a high of a little more than DM 1.5bn.

In Switzerland, as elsewhere, investors were nowhere to be found and prices drifted lower by about ½ a point.

The only issue launched yesterday was a $20m 15-year convertible for Esterline International Finance, with the guarantee of Esterline Corporation, a U.S. instrument automation manufacturer. The borrower is paying an indicated coupon of 8½ per cent and the conversion premium for this issue, which is managed by Kidder Peabody International, is expected to be between 12 per cent and 17 per cent.

New issues currently on offer in the dollar sector appear to bemoving very slowly, particularly the two three-year bonds launched last week for Transamerica Corporation and Swedish Export Credit Corporation.

Greek borrowings under way

BY PETER MONTAGNON

TWO MAJOR borrowings are underway for the Central Bank of Greece. It is raising DM 250m from West German Girozentrale banks under the leadership of WestLB and a credit of at least $100m from leading Arab institutions.

The Deutsche Mark credit is different from other club deals organised by these banks in that it is not a purely fixed interest credit. This was the case, for example, with a recent DM 350m credit to Venezuela where interest was fixed at 8.65 per cent over 10 years.

In the Greek case the current volatility of West German interest rates has prompted the borrower to accept an initial floating rate margin over Euromark rates. It will have an option to convert the borrowing into a fixed interest credit at a later stage.

In this way it should be able to profit from any fall in German interest rates. Detailed conditions are not being disclosed, but the loan has a maturity of 10 years.

The other credit, which will receive a limited syndication among Arab institutions, is a revolving credit to finance Greek oil imports from the Middle East.

The final pricing details have not yet been set, although it is understood that the borrowing will have a relatively short life of only three years.

The Central Bank of Greece earlier this year raised a very successful Eurocredit amounting to $550m, nearly double the initial target of $300m. It was priced at a margin of ⅝ per cent throughout its eight year life.

Foreign banks 'pay more' for U.S. funds

By Our Financial Staff

U.S. subsidiaries of foreign banks appear to pay more for their funds than do comparable U.S. banks, reports a study by the Comptroller of the Currency.

The study to examine whether foreign-owned banks have a competitive advantage over U.S. banks because of potential access to low-cost funds from parent banks abroad, was one of 14 carried out by the Comptroller's staff. The reports are expected to be the basis for testimony by Mr. John Heimann, the Comptroller, at hearings this week by a House of Representatives Subcommittee on foreign banking.

The cost-of-funds report concluded that foreign-owned banks have a lower proportion of checking and small savings accounts than domestic banks and a higher proportion of so-called "purchased funds," which are large certificates of deposit and security repurchase agreements.

The effects of the foreign banks' "unfavourable and more costly liability mix more than outweigh" any possible benefits from their higher proportion of deposits from banks abroad, including the parent bank, the report said.

A study of 47 foreign-owned banks in the U.S. showed that last year they had lower returns on assets and equity than comparable U.S.-owned banks.

Australian upturn pushes Carpenter to record

BY JAMES FORTH IN SYDNEY

W. R. CARPENTER Holdings, the diversified manufacturing and trading group, boosted profit by 38 per cent from A$9.5m to a record A$13.1m (US$5.13m) for the year to June and has increased the dividend payout.

Sales of the group rose by 19 per cent from A$335m to A$399m (US$467m). The dividend is raised from 12.5 cents a share to 14 cents and is more than twice covered by earnings of 30.2 cents a share, compared with 21.4 cents.

The directors said the improved profit reflected a A$4.4m turnround in profitability of the Australian division. The overseas divisions showed a small overall downturn of 7 per cent, reflecting a combination of low commodity prices for tropical agriculture and reduced intake of copra for processing into Coconut oil in Fiji.

In Australia the Dalton paper merchandising, printing and packaging group enjoyed excellent trading with pre-tax earnings rising by 45 per cent. The Claude neon signs and lighting group continued its record as Australia's biggest supplier of outdoor advertising illumination.

The Arrowfield wine division again operated at a loss but a better vintage in 1980 combined with a wind-down of stocks will assist in reducing the level of operating losses. The directors said coffee prices were affected by continued over-supply conditions

Commonwealth Bank shows slight growth

BY OUR SYDNEY CORRESPONDENT

THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED Commonwealth Banking Corporation raised its earnings by only 4.3 per cent, from A$130m to A$135m (US$158m) in the year to June, and the directors expect slower growth in the current year.

The banks have been pressing the Government to allow an increase in interest rates in controlled areas, such as overdraft loans up to A$100,000 and housing loans, to counter the rising cost of obtaining funds.

Because the Commonwealth is Government-owned the directors yesterday declined to make any comment upon interest rates, other than to state that the outlook for 1980-1981 pointed to "another year of generally tight liquidity, strong demand for finance and little or no relief from interest rate pressures."

Pre-tax profit of the Commonwealth Trading Bank arm rose 7 per cent to A$67m, with deposits rising A$577m to A$5.45bn (US$6.4bn).

New lending approvals, other than in commercial bill lines, were only marginally ahead, at A$1.86bn, despite strong demand for funds, which was curtailed to a substantial degree by official lending guidelines.

The Commonwealth Savings Bank pushed earnings up only 1.6 per cent to A$78.8m, while the Commonwealth Development Bank edged up earnings from A$11m to A$12m. Turnover for the Commonwealth Bankcard rose 23 per cent to A$520m.

MORTGAGE BANK OF FINLAND OY

US$20,000,000 9¼% GUARANTEED BONDS 1981

HAMBROS BANK LIMITED HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that in accordance with the terms of the above mentioned loan the redemption for the 15th October, 1980 has been effected by the purchase of US$1,961,000 nominal bonds and the balance amounting to US$1,039,000 nominal bonds were drawn on the 8th September, 1980 for repayment at par.

The drawn bonds may be presented to *Hambros Bank Limited, 41 Bishopsgate, London EC2P 2AA* or to the other Paying Agents named on the bonds.

Bonds surrendered for redemption should have attached all unmatured coupons appurtenant thereto. Coupons due the 15th October, 1980 should be detached and collected in the usual manner.

Bonds will be received on any business day and must be left three clear days for examination.

BONDS OF US$1,000

1	13	18	38	56	73	80	84	90	164	170	196
198	233	238	239	254	264	302	306	322	328	332	348
366	369	371	401	423	424	430	432	450	467	549	579
614	615	634	727	735	740	757	772	782	789	806	849
893	919	920	923	926	943	970	991	996	1005	1010	1016
1030	1035	1036	1041	1048	1072	1081	1082	1105	1140	1147	1153
1167	1180	1206	1208	1216	1230	1268	1285	1290	1303	1310	1315
1349	1390	1396	1403	1419	1421	1442	1463	1468	1469	1476	1481
1489	1496	1507	1512	1537	1547	1551	1553	1583	1618	1625	1628
1633	1667	1669	1671	1705	1712	1714	1729	1811	1823	1827	1846
1863	1879	1880	1911	1913	1929	1931	1932	1962	1975	1985	2007
2020	2068	2091	2117	2135	2181	2189	2192	2221	2234	2243	2245
2275	2284	2297	2302	2327	2338	2356	2431	2433	2446	2466	2467
2480	2483	2495	2503	2534	2545	2584	2626	2642	2654	2655	2663
2664	2671	2697	2698	2716	2718	2731	2732	2786	2789	2793	2805
2806	2822	2836	2845	2848	2854	2873	2886	2888	2891	2925	2954
2967	2978	3039	3050	3060	3072	3123	3134	3148	3156	3168	3204
3217	3218	3237	3271	3272	3276	3287	3293	3297	3321	3344	3352
3617	3628	3635	3636	3637	3641	3644	3645	3667	3673	3697	3704
3734	3757	3759	3803	3810	3848	3869	3881	3882	3889	3901	3906
3907	3910	3964	3979	3994	4006	4007	4008	4014	4015	4025	4046
4054	4060	4066	4072	4080	4102	4104	4105	4118	4129	4150	4162
4171	4172	4239	4244	4255	4261	4266	4267	4268	4276	4279	4290
4292	4295	4313	4315	4319	4339	4348	4383	4397	4490	4491	4561
4614	4639	4659	4670	4686	4695	4723	4734	4735	4745	4754	4794
4826	4832	4839	5308	5331	5366	5368	5370	5392	5396	5409	5414
5416	5421	5425	5426	5433	5439	5443	5460	5462	5474	5481	5496
5500	5505	5598	5631	5650	5695	5726	5731	5732	5751	5781	5792
5793	5795	5797	5807	5829	5851	5873	5888	5897	5912	5938	5962
5997	6020	6031	6045	6049	6051	6064	6067	6086	6100	6108	6121
6129	6132	6160	6166	6172	6177	6184	6187	6222	6224	6233	6235
6265	6278	6283	6317	6318	6340	6343	6348	6363	6367	6377	6387
6402	6410	6412	6425	6446	6455	6476	6486	6493	6527	6549	6565
6570	6620	6625	6644	6659	6673	6677	6684	6688	6721	6743	6816
6823	6828	6835	6887	6911	6928	6935	6976	6989	7012	7013	7018
7021	7098	7119	7195	7213	7224	7242	7287	7317	7319	7320	7327
7342	7382	7399	7405	7412	7429	7438	7465	7479	9297	9329	9330
9346	9386	9388	9405	9434	9438	9447	9449	9494	9502	9555	9558
9588	9616	9624	9633	9638	9648	9671	9676	9682	9696	9697	9702
9708	9759	9770	9778	9829	9833	9907	9914	9916	9918	9938	9944
9947	9970	10018	10041	10109	10115	10134	10143	10148	10206	10208	10215
10241	10252	10260	10268	10286	10287	10514	10515	10517	10529	10532	10695
10711	10724	10739	10749	10754	10784	10805	10833	10867	10885	10929	10938
10944	10976	10988	10993	10994	11007	11047	11067	11068	11075	11076	11118
11122	11157	11193	11199	11214	11227	11241	11243	11253	11285	11287	11309
11314	11335	11352	11368	11392	11454	11476	11489	11496	11538	11541	11555
11567	11603	11607	11611	11648	11662	11667	11681	11711	11719	11726	11742
11783	11817	11853	11869	11879	11891	11915	11961	11962	11963	11964	11981
11982	11986	12006	12007	12020	12021	12044	12048	12049	12050	12070	12073
12084	12111	12115	12119	12122	12128	12129	12141	12189	12197	12217	12221
12268	12286	12296	12321	12355	12358	12381	12429	12457	12462	12508	12586
12646	12677	12689	12731	12733	12753	12759	12768	12796	12859	12894	12905
12908	12912	12924	12956	12987	13025	13029	13080	13089	13126	13140	13153
13194	13195	13202	13268	13286	13294	13320	13324	13325	13340	13368	13374
13400	13407	13409	13422	13423	13434	13445	13492	13494	13496	13500	13501
13536	13539	13542	13550	13561	13569	13584	13601	13602	13614	13615	13702
13717	13786	13788	13809	13820	13834	13905	13906	13916	13918	13929	13934
13948	13989	14023	14060	14069	14081	14086	14097	14114	14133	14144	14166
14171	14184	14185	14191	14209	14244	14252	14253	14281	14282	14295	14300
14302	14313	14332	14409	14412	14439	14473	14475	14483	14488	14492	14499
14529	14536	14555	14574	14589	14596	14612	14625	14657	14658	14693	14701
14719	14759	14796	14808	14810	14869	14895	14903	14907	14919	14980	14983
14998	15000	15035	15038	15040	15044	15057	15089	15100	15101	15147	15151
15156	15161	15163	15170	15174	15205	15210	15214	15218	15227	15264	15276
15279	15287	15297	15319	15333	15351	15361	15391	15437	15439	15441	15461
15468	15469	15475	15539	15551	15558	15662	15663	15669	15674	15688	15689
15690	15704	15710	15712	15715	15724	15728	15740	15762	15808	15819	15891
15895	15900	15935	15971	15979	16015	16017	16018	16021	16030	16031	16034
16036	16046	16047	16082	16134	16149	16164	16211	16218	16280	16296	16311
16355	16383	16399	16405	16434	16463	16488	16493	16511	16513	16534	16547
16561	16571	16585	16599	16612	16631	16693	16708	16716	16724	16748	16794
16809	16824	16841	16878	16934	16935	16947	16958	16987	17009	17017	17038
17039	17047	17072	17081	17082	17083	17092	17120	17150	17222	17227	17233
17256	17263	17264	17269	17295	17302	17304	17323	17363	17365	17458	17485
17492	17493	17509	17577	17601	17613	17627	17665	17669	17717	17756	17760
17771	17772	17809	17820	17822	17854	17875	17878	17929	17941	17952	17981
17998	18026	18046	18057	18077	18144	18161	18210	18212	18213	18237	18296
18319	18347	18359	18360	18366	18368	18414	18415	18430	18432	18433	18447
18458	18462	18480	18493	18510	18522	18574	18575	18577	18607	18612	18615
18625	18644	18671	18721	18728	18730	18735	18744	18771	18788	18793	18795
18800	18839	18843	18850	18856	18862	18877	18881	18889	18890	18891	18893
18894	18905	18911	18943	18944	18945	18951	18983	18991	18999	19001	19019
19046	19107	19132	19152	19157	19179	19189	19196	19206	19207	19214	19215
19216	19218	19228	19288	19294	19315	19319	19336	19367	19416	19440	19441
19460	19530	19536	19539	19546	19552	19553	19559	19565	19582	19583	19596
19597	19600	19677	19708	19723	19731	19760	19784	19787	19831	19851	19852
19863	19896	19902	19939	19942	19947	19998					

The following bonds from previous drawings have not yet been presented for payment:

Bonds drawn for payment 15th October, 1978

26	30	70	71	229	245	508	994	1068	1108	1631	3668
3988	4061	4149	4152	4388	4401	4674	4714	4823	4824	9393	9442
9445	9496	9506	9838	9858	9941	9942	9943	9984	9996	10005	10009
10036	10050	10095	10221	10232	10510	10759	10966	11526	11535	11591	11660
11672	11683	11847	11863	12230	12471	12596	12606	12734	12742	13874	16605
16723	16900	17037	17590	17592	17597	17764	17780	17850	17852		

Bonds drawn for payment 15th October, 1979

62	66	88	197	204	221	240	708	936	937	1023	1076
1098	1099	1112	1497	1548	1824	2494	2506	3651	3654	3659	3665
3669	3693	3707	3963	4155	4184	4247	4303	4384	4599	4669	5409
9410	9417	9433	9463	9505	9518	9618	9680	9694	9695	9699	9738
9859	9860	9897	9912	9926	9958	9974	9978	9994	10016	10035	10048
10051	10052	10105	10216	10277	10736	10738	11012	11234	11311	11315	11537
11539	11540	11551	11571	11575	11629	11647	11649	11657	11665	11666	11671
11673	11756	11766	11773	11818	11832	11841	11855	12265	12350	12406	12593
12640	12741	12920	12936	12945	13078	13105	13111	13275	13276	13279	13519
13856	16553	16558	16602	16728	16781	16792	16813	16856	16961	16968	16969
16970	16971	16981	16986	16995	17015	17176	17196	17311	17316	17426	17430
17594	17596	17600	17934								

First-half profits increase at Olivetti

By Our Financial Staff

SHARPLY higher sales and profits are reported for the first half of 1980 by Olivetti, the Italian electronics and office equipment group in which Saint Gobain of France has a major shareholding.

Sales on a consolidated basis are 17.9 per cent higher at L963.4bn ($1.12bn) and the company said yesterday that its "economic result" also showed a substantial improvement over the opening six months of 1979.

The performance follows on from the dramatic recovery experienced last year by Olivetti, when net earnings rose to L23.8bn from L2.1bn. The upturn culminated in the company paying its first dividend since 1974.

Turnover for the parent company in the first half was L520.7bn, an increase of 31.4 per cent, and consisted of sales L343.8bn on the Italian market, up 39.2 per cent, of L176.9bn in exports, up 18.5 per cent. Orders on the Italian market rose by 28.6 per cent.

Of the parent company's turnover, 37 per cent represented sales of office products and 63 per cent sales of distributed data processing products. A considerable share of office products turnover was accounted for by electronic typewriters where sales were worth L30.6bn.

Production of finished machines in the first six months of 1980 rose by around 18 per cent. Research expenditure increased by 24.9 per cent.

Major Arbed investment

By Our Financial Staff

THE LUXEMBOURG steel company, Arbed, plans to invest BFr 22.1bn up to 1984. Plans include a BFr. 3.6bn cold rolling mill specialising in high quality thin plates and a BFr 4.3bn continuous slab plant supplying both a hot strip line and a rolled strip unit.

The company did not say where other investments would be made.

Slump in foreign sales hits Fiat

BY RUPERT CORNWELL IN TURIN

FIAT, the motor group which is Italy's largest industrial company, reports a decline of 2 per cent in unit sales of cars during the first half of 1980.

Sales at home advanced and market share improved, but foreign demand for cars weakened substantially. Unit sales outside Italy fell by 22 per cent to 287,000 cars from 367,000 in the opening half of 1979.

Actual cash sales rose by 23 per cent to L8,976bn ($10.5bn) from L7,391bn. The home market share rose to 52.4 per cent from 50.3 per cent but the European market share outside Italy shrank to 4.1 per cent from 5.1 per cent.

The reasons for this trend, according to the company, go beyond the general decline of 11 per cent in car sales in Europe so far this year—excluding Spain and the still buoyant Italian market.

Fiat blamed in particular loss of output in 1979 when production was heavily disrupted by strikes, and lost competitiveness as high inflation at home was not reflected in a decline in the lira's exchange rate.

Total car production in Italy during the six months rose by 11.6 per cent while output abroad of Fiat models manufactured under licence climbed by 5 per cent. But in Italy at least this pattern seems set to change in the current half-year.

Fiat is aiming to reduce vehicle production by 20 per cent over the 18 months to the end of 1981, and in the teeth of ferocious union opposition is now seeking to make 14,469 of its car division workers redundant.

The gap between the increased production and lower sales has led to a costly pile up of stocks which the company has already acted to reduce by putting 78,000 men on short-time immediately before and after the August holiday break.

The picture is somewhat brighter for Fiat's heavy vehicle division, Iveco. While production rose by 15 per cent in the first half to 67,983 units, sales grew by almost 20 per cent. Despite the downturn expected in Europe as a whole from now on, sales for the whole of 1980 are forecast to be slightly higher than in 1979.

Fiat's other major divisions have fared better than the loss making car sector. Teksid, the steel concern, managed to boost sales by 40 per cent in the half year to L963bn, in line with the buoyant conditions on the Italian steel market in general.

A similar gain was reported by the component sector, with a leap in turnover to L970bn from L668bn. But its subsequent performance is bound to be affected by the poor state of the new car market. Meanwhile, tractor and earth moving equipment sales advance despite severe problems in the important North American market.

Net liquidity of Fiat Spa, the group holding company, rose a further L100bn to L1,588bn by mid-1980, compared with December 31, 1979. Fixed investments climbed to L381bn from L358bn in line with the heavy capital spending programme to which Fiat is committed over the coming five years.

Earnings slide at Swedish bank

BY WESTERLEY CHRISTENER IN STOCKHOLM

SKANDINAVISKA Enskilda Banken reports sharply lower earnings for the first eight months of 1980 and expects a decline of 15 per cent for the year as a whole.

The setback is despite an improvement in profits during the second four months ended August 31, when earnings rose by nearly a half.

The eight months earnings of SKr 475m ($110m) are 23 per cent lower than the SKr 616m earned in the corresponding period of 1979. The earnings slide for the group as a whole was SKr 136m, to SKr 575m. In the second four-month period earnings improved 48 per cent, to SKr 283m.

The improvement is attributed to an increase in net interest income of SKr 50m. In April the cash quotas the banks must hold in the Riksbank (central bank) were reduced from 8 to 2 per cent, releasing SKr 2.7bn which had been drawing 10 per cent interest. This amount was placed in state bonds with a 12.5 per cent coupon.

From May 1 the rates paid on Riksbank special deposits were reduced, which in turn brought down interest costs during the second four-month period.

During the period, net interest income fell by 16 per cent, to SKr 855m, because the placement margin sank from 2.84 to 1.99 per cent. Deposit rates also increased more rapidly than the official discount rate because of sharper deposit competition, it is stated, which could not be compensated with correspondingly higher lending rates. This led to a 0.29 per cent squeezing of the margin between deposit and lending rate levels.

Miscellaneous income increased by 27 per cent, to SKr 110m at the end of August.

The board predicts that a weakening of Sweden's economy will cause monetary policy to remain tight for the rest of the year. Efforts to reduce the large—and growing—deficits in the state budget and balance-of-payments will call for a continued stringent credit policy and high interest rates.

Liquidity requirements for the commercial banks increased at the beginning of July, reducing room for lending even more, it is stated.

Sharp drop in orders for VEW

By Paul Lendvai in Vienna

THE AUSTRIAN nationalised special steel concern, Vereinigte Edelsthlwerke (VEW), has been badly hit since mid-1980 by a sharp fall in incoming orders and the board now proposes 700 redundancies. Union leaders, however, prefer putting 2,600 workers in the plants directly affected on short-time working instead.

VEW, which was set up in 1975 through the merger of three nationalised steel producers, last year showed a loss of Sch 553m ($43.3m). VEW, with a turnover of Sch 10.4bn last year, exported almost 80 per cent of its output. Output in 1979 increased by 14 per cent to 300,000 tonnes, but the cost of debt servicing reached Sch 626m.

During the first half of 1980 the cash flow was positive for the first time in five years, with turnover up 14.4 per cent. Since July, however, a sudden downward trend ended hopes of a sustained upswing.

Last year VEW was promised Sch 1bn in federal aid in five annual tranches. It is doubtful whether the Federal Government can provide more than the originally projected Sch 200m this year. VEW needs at least an additional Sch 1bn for debt repayment. In all, it requires new funds of about Sch 3.5bn by 1984.

● The Austrian bank and central institute of the savings bank system, Girocentrale, has taken over the minority holding of the German Mietfinanz company, thus increasing its interest to 75 per cent, with the rest held by the Schoeller Bank. Mietfinanz's name has been changed to Leasfinanz. The company primarily concentrates on investment goods leasing. At the end of 1979-80 year, business passed Sch 1bn, with 4,200 leasing contracts.

Peugeot plans sales integration

BY TERRY DODSWORTH IN PARIS

THE FRENCH Peugeot motor group is expected to begin a significant reorganisation of its sales networks within the next few weeks in an effort to stop the sharp decline in registrations.

Although the company has made no official comment so far, meetings with important dealers are being held this week to discuss tactics. It is widely believed that these discussions will lead to measures designed to bring the sales network's three constituent companies, Peugeot, Talbot and Citroen, closer in some countries.

Since the formation of the present business with the takeover of Chrysler Europe (now Talbot) in 1978, Peugeot has stuck to its original plan of keeping the organisations strictly separate at sales levels. There has been considerable integration in other areas, notably component production and model policy, but the idea has been to try to capitalise on three separate sales networks.

This marketing concept, modelled on the General Motors style of operation, is now under question. The group as a whole has lost sales heavily this year, with registrations falling by 20 per cent in France alone. This has led to suggestions that the company is suffering from being unable to concentrate its advertising budget on one network.

At the same time, Talbot dealers in particular have become vulnerable to offers from competitors, especially in markets such as West Germany, where the Japanese are expanding quickly. Even in France, where Talbot has its main European base, some dealers have been tempted to leave the organisation as the company's sales dropped

Saab-Scania pulls out of Saab Univac

By William Dullforce in Stockholm

SAAB-SCANIA has sold its 51 per cent share in Saab Univac, the computer company, to Sperry Corporation of the U.S. for an undisclosed sum. The book value of Saab-Scania's holding was SKr 79m ($19m).

Sabb Univac was formed by the Swedish group and Sperry's computer subsidiary in 1975 to operate on the Nordic market. One of the largest suppliers of heavy computers to Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden, Saab Univac has made deliveries totalling SKr 1bn ($240m) since 1975.

Last year it earned SKr 12m pre-tax on a SKr 444m turnover.

By selling out to Sperry, the Swedish truck, car and aerospace group has withdrawn entirely from the large computer business. It still has a 50 per cent share in Datasaab, a company producing small data equipment which it formed together with the state in 1978.

Dutch supermarket chain forecasts downturn

BY OUR FINANCIAL STAFF

AHOLD, the Dutch supermarket chain, reports a marginal gain in earnings for the first seven months of 1980 but expects profits for the year as a whole to show a decline.

The company complains of a competitive squeeze on its margins, and weak sales growth. Turnover for the seven months is just 7 per cent higher at Fl 2.99bn, compared with Fl 2.79bn.

Net earnings were Fl 25.8m compared with Fl 24.8m, and profit per share was Fl 9.49 compared with an adjusted Fl 9.40. The company's operating result actually declined by 5.4 per cent to Fl 44.1m.

As a percentage of sales, operating profits contracted to 1.47 per cent, from 1.67 per cent and net profit as a percentage of sales narrowed to 0.86 per cent from 0.89 per cent. The profit margin "had been under pressure" because of competitive low prices. Sales in the Netherlands rose by 5.3 per cent in the seven months of 1980, while turnover of Ahold's foreign companies rose by 14.3 per cent.

● Maatschappij van Berkel's Patent, the Dutch electronic weighing equipment manufacturer, reports a Fl 2.89m net profit for the first half of 1980, down 38.8 per cent from the Fl 4.73m achieved a year earlier.

Sales increased by 10 per cent to Fl 249m. The company said the increase was "less than expected as a result of stagnating sales during the second quarter of 1980." Financing costs held Van Berkel's trading profit to Fl 15.35m, down 2.8 per cent from Fl 15.80m.

Net profit per share was Fl 5.40, against Fl 9.41. The half-year figures take account of a capital increase.

Although measures "have been taken to tailor production to sagging demand," the company expects profits for the remainder of 1980 "to be probably no greater than in the first half of the year."

Sika Finanz to lift capital

By John Wicks in Zurich

SIKA FINANZ, the Zug-based holding company of the Sika group, plans to increase its share capital from SwFr 30m to SwFr 40m ($24.39m) through the issue of new bearer and registered shares at a price of 150 per cent face value. At the same time, steps are being taken to make registered shares "accessible to a broader public." A sizeable packet of this stock is to be offered to employees.

The capital increase is intended to raise money for expansion of the Sika Group, the industrial concern specialising in cement additives and other building chemicals, which has increased turnover by 20 per cent so far this year. In 1979 sales totalled SwFr 286m.

BORROWER PROFILE

SOUTH AFRICA

Return aims to raise standing

BY QUENTIN PEEL IN JOHANNESBURG

THE MANNER in which the *South African Government* has returned to the international capital market this year has been in marked contrast with its usual low profile. Both its DM120m Eurobond floated in June, and now its $250m syndicated credit, have been accorded widespread publicity. It is a far cry from the furtiveness which has marked Pretoria's private placements in recent years. The reason is not far to find: both ventures have been prompted not so much by financial necessity, as by the desire to re-establish the Republic in the market as a respectable borrower.

The South African Government does not at the moment need more money. It is awash with surplus revenue from its booming gold mines, and the domestic capital market is suffering a surfeit of liquidity.

By *the same token*, however, it is an ideal time for South Africa to restore its international credit rating. In contrast to virtually all the rest of the oil-importing world, it can boast OPEC-style trade surpluses; consumer spending and private investment are soaring, and the growth rate will be per cent this year, after several years of semi-stagnation.

"If it were not for the political stigma, South Africa would be the bluest of blue-chips," one international banker in Johannesburg says. "As it is, the rate of return, and its reliability now clearly *outweigh the political* problems."

That "at least" is the calculation of the South African Government and its bankers. A key indicator of its correctness will be the success of the lead banks in syndicating the latest loan. The conditions of the credit, which bears a split ⅞-1 per cent margin over the London inter-bank borrowing rate (Libor) have been set to entice a wide spectrum of banks into the operation, and it seems unlikely to be difficult to place.

But at the same time a number of banks, especially in the U.S., have particularly strict guidelines limiting lending to South Africa. Strength of public opinion there on apartheid means it will take a long time *for them to* relax these guidelines.

If some political doubts do thus remain, there is little doubt over the economic fundamentals. Over the 12 months to the end of June, the current account of the balance of payments was running at a surplus of R3.6bn ($4.8bn), compared with R2.3bn over the previous 12 months, and R790m in 1977-1978. That surplus has enabled South African borrowers, both public and private, to repay very large amounts of foreign debt. In 1979-80, the total net capital outflow was R3.8bn, of which more than 42 per cent (or R1.6bn) consisted of long-*term capital*.

Bankers say that some of the capital outflow was prepayment of outstanding foreign debt, officially encouraged by the Government, while there was also a heavy concentration of debt falling due for repayment. The latest annual report of the Reserve Bank says that central Government has repaid a net R605m of long-term foreign debt in the past three years. The Reserve Bank's *figures for* public sector foreign borrowing show debts maturing this year at double the level for 1981.

FOREIGN LONG-TERM DEBT BY MATURITY
(Rm)

	Central Government*	Local authorities	Public corporations	Total
1980	559	37	950	1,546
1981	283	17	543	843
1982	234	34	650	918
1983	273	11	452	736
1984	336	11	564	911
1985	76	10	300	386
1986	80	8	188	276
1987	28	5	167	200
After 1987	34	—	711	745
As at end 1979	1,903	133	4,525	6,561

* Includes Railways and Post Office.

Source: SA Reserve Bank

The coincidence of that heavy repayment schedule with last year's oil price rise could have brought the cautious upturn in the South African economy to an end. In the event, the gold bonanza has paid for both, and provided the necessary underpinning for a return to the international markets. The net value of gold output increased by 79.6 per cent to R8.3bn ($10.9bn) in 1979/80. Indeed, if gold were excluded from the current account, there would have been a sharply rising trade deficit, from R2.3bn in 1978/79 to R4.7bn in 1979/80, and some analysts say the trade balance will swing into deficit by mid-1981 unless the gold price stays over $570 per ounce.

Senior South African officials insist there will not be any repetition of the 1970s borrowing on the back of the latest gold boom. Then, there was a *string of major infrastructure* projects, including several huge power stations, new harbours at Richards Bay (for coal) and Saldanha Bay (for iron ore), and railway lines.

"We are not pushing for loans very actively. We are waiting for proposals to come to us," one senior official says. The only major public sector borrower in the near future is likely to be Escom, the Electricity Supply Commission, which has embarked on a further R11bn expansion programme over the next decade. Other public corporations, such as the Industrial Development Corporation, and South African Railways, may also be looking for relatively small amounts.

One factor behind the Republic's return to the market, apart from its waving the flag, is to keep old friends happy, and if possible, make new friends in the banking community. The Swiss and West German banks, in particular, *have been prepared to lend* money over the past lean years, although only for limited periods, such as three years. According to the latest Treasury figures for public sector debt, almost half of it is in Deutsche-Marks, and a further 18 per cent in Swiss francs. Borrowing in such hard currencies has meant substantial foreign exchange losses for the Reserve Bank, which used to provide nominal forward cover to public corporations. Now such cover is only given for dollar debts, and Government policy is to "spread our wings and not remain simply with German and Swiss lenders," according to *one source*.

The presence of Citicorp as one of the lead managers in the new Euroloan is therefore seen as a significant gesture. However, the desire to woo U.S. banks into lending to the Government has meant putting restrictive conditions on the loan, tying it to specific projects to benefit South Africa's majority black population.

How meningful such formulae are is a matter of debate. The banks insist that they will be able to monitor drawing down of the credit as it is needed for the specific projects. Others would argue that whatever conditions are attached, in the final analysis it is all general Government finance.

South Africa is still paying a premium, seven years remains the limit for Euro-credits, and the premium over Libor is *certainly higher than the* economic situation would dictate. But officials hope that with renewed familiarity, the terms will steadily improve.

Marginal advance by J Fairfax

BY JAMES FORTH IN SYDNEY

JOHN FAIRFAX, the press group, *has increased its annual* dividend although group earnings for the 53 weeks to June 29 came to only A$9.74m (U.S.$ 11.4m) compared with A$7.40m for the previous 52 weeks.

The result reflects the impact on Fairfax of its leading part in a A$75m sharemarket defence of another press group, Herald and Weekly Times (H and WT), to prevent it suc*cumbing to a partial offer* for control from Mr. Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation.

Fairfax paid about A$50m for a 14.9 per cent interest in H and WT, a move which re*quired it to dispose of its hold*ings in Queensland Television and Canberra Television. The net effect on consolidated operating profits of the television company share sales and the H and WT defence was a decline in profit of A$1.23m.

Fairfax received a dividend of A$724,000 from the H and WT investment and will receive A$2.5m in a full year. However, this will be largely offset by the loss of earnings from Queensland TV and Canberra TV.

Fairfax made a capital profit of A$10.3m from the Queensland TV sale and A$3.46m from *the Canberra TV sale. A sur*plus of A$2.8m from the provision for fluctuation in value of investments has also been written back into earnings.

These gains, however, are offset by the decline in the price of H and WT. Since the defence operation Fairfax has shown a book loss of between A$15m and A$20m on its A$50m outlay, and it is currently down by more than A$18m. But the directors have still lifted the dividend from 8.85 cents to 9.25 cents which is covered by unchanged earnings per share of 19.5 cents.

Mid-term rise for Swire Properties

By Our Hong Kong Correspondent

SWIRE PROPERTIES has once again laid claim to being the star performer of the Swire Pacific Group by posting a 41 per cent increase in interim profits. After-tax earnings for the six months to June 30 came to HK$136.5m (US$27.6m) compared to HK$96.6m for the same *period last year*.

In addition Mr. John Bremridge, the chairman, has forecast that earnings for the full year will grow by over 50 per cent to at least HK$360m, and that the final dividend will be at least double the interim payment of 18 cents a share.

Mr. Bremridge noted that work on the company's major project, Taikoo Shing, a huge residential development on the north-eastern *side of Hong* Kong Island, is proceeding to schedule, but said that sales of flats fell substantially during the first six months because of high interest rates and because the Government extended rent controls in December to all residential flats.

AWA plans rights issue

BY OUR SYDNEY CORRESPONDENT

AMALGAMATED Wireless *(Australasia)*, (AWA) the electronics group, plans to raise A$11.95m (U.S.$14m) from a rights issue after an eight per cent increase in group earnings for the year to June.

Net profit rose from *A$9.27m* to A$10m, but was held back by increased company tax due to the cessation of the tradings stock valuation adjustment and the reduction in investment allowance. Pre-tax earnings rose 21 per cent.

The result lifted earnings per share from 40 cents to 43 cents and provided ample cover for an increase in the ordinary dividend from 10.5 *cents to* 11 cents. It is the fifth successive increase in the annual dividend, which is payable *on* capital increased during the year by a one-for-five scrip issue.

The directors expect to maintain the dividend rate on capital increased by the rights *offer* which will be *on* the basis of one new share for every four held. The issue price is A$1.50 a share, compared with a going sharemarket price in Sydney of A$3.45.

During the year AWA acquired the Brisbane television company Queensland TV for about A$28m. The directors said that results since balance date have been ahead of those for last year and they expect a further gain in profits for the current year.

Disposals boost Stelux

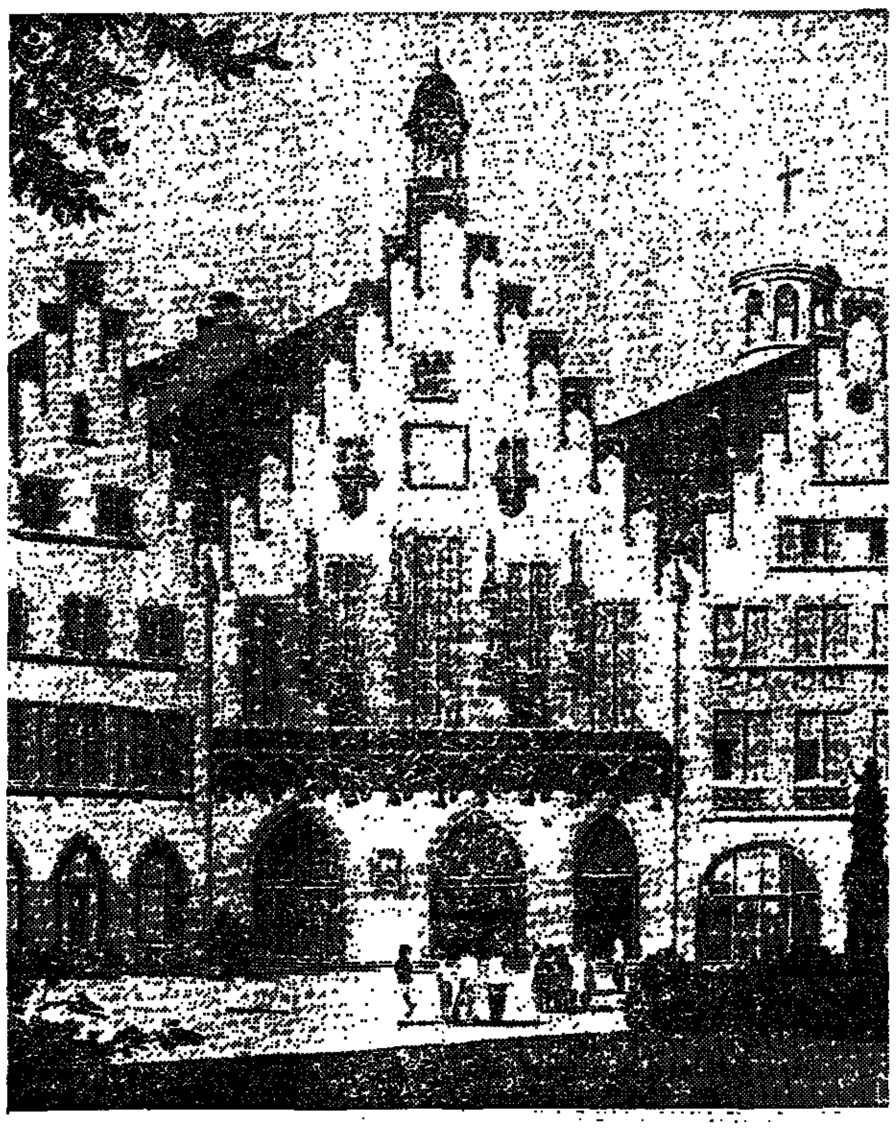
BY OUR HONG KONG CORRESPONDENT

THE SALE by Stelux Manufacturing in 1979 of almost all its properties helped the company to post total profits for the year to March 31 of HK$437.2m (U.S.$87.6m), against a loss of HK$6.54m the previous year. But since the company no longer had income from property trading and development, after-tax earnings fell 69 per cent to HK$8.93m.

However, the directors have declared a one-for-fice scrip issue, a final dividend of 30 cents a share, and a bonus dividend of 20 cents a share, which brings the total pay-out for the year to 55 cents. There was no payment of dividends for the previous year.

The company also announced that it had recently bought *several prime development* sites, and property trading is again expected to contribute substantially to profits in the current year.

Stelux suffered severe losses in the previous three years from write-offs and exchange losses in watch manufacturing, in which about a third of its assets are invested.



WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Dow up 0.6 at mid-session

FOLLOWING a rally on Monday afternoon which took the Dow Jones Industrial Average to a 3½ year high, stocks on Wall Street eased slightly early yesterday but firmed during the morning in heavy trading.

The initial weakness was thought by analysts to be due to concern about the fighting between Iran and Iraq. At 11 pm the Dow Average was off 4.86 but had recovered by 1 pm to 975.17, a gain of 0.60 on Monday's close. However, declines led advances by a ratio of seven-to-six on volume at 26m shares (35.38m). The NYSE All Common Index at 1 pm rose 0.41 to $75.84.

Analysts, referring to the Middle East conflict, said any threat to shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, which carries about 18m barrels of oil a day, would be a serious negative factor, but so far that has not materialised. Oil issues with reserves in so-called "safe places," such as North America, were in strong demand.

Among Oil and Gas issues, active **Texaco** rose $1 to $36, **Mobil** $1¾ to $71½ and **Gulf Oil** $1⅛ to $41⅛. **Louisiana Land and Exploration** gained $1¾ to $53½, **Mapco** $1⅛ to $47 and **Petrolane** $1⅛ to $43⅞.

InterNorth gained $⅞ to $33 and **Belden Corporation** $2 to $38⅝ but **Crouse-Hinds** slipped $¾ to $40⅞. Crouse asked the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to investigate the planned takeover of Crouse by InterNorth. Meanwhile, Crouse and Belden continue with plans for a merger.

U.S. Shoe rose $⅞ to $29, on reporting sharply higher fourth quarter net, but it said early spring orders were lower.

THE AMERICAN SE Market Value Index also continued its advance, rising 4.62 to 349.80 on volume of 4.58m shares.

Volume leader Gulf Canada gained $1⅜ to $25¾. **Imperial Oil "A"** $2⅛ to $35½, **Chieftain Development** $1⅞ to $20⅜ and **Ranger Oil** $2⅛ to $38⅛.

Closing North American prices were not available for compiling the market reports.

Canada

Continuing Monday's buoyant trend, markets in Canada rose sharply yesterday morning in heavy trading. Oil and Gold issues, boosted by the Middle East unrest, led the way.

At noon, the Toronto Composite Index had risen 15.4 to 2,346.2 and eight out of 14 sub-indices advanced.

In Golds, **Campbell Red Lake** at C$94 and **Giant Yellowknife** at C$39 each rose C$½ while **Sigma Mines** added C$⅞ to C$56¼.

Elsewhere, **Gulf Canada**, the most active industrial issue on 187,292 shares, rose C$1¼ to C$29⅞.

The Montreal Composite Index at noon had climbed 6.0 points to 373.74.

Australia

Continuing Monday's trend, Golds remained buoyant amid further reports of fighting between Iraq and Iran. Higher bullion prices in London and New York on Monday also contributed to the firm trend.

The Sydney All Ordinaries *Index rose* 2.32 to a high for the year of 995.49. However, most stocks finished below their best, as traders became nervous and profit-taking developed, especially in some of the second line Gold shares that dealers considered to be overbought.

But there was solid support for shares such as **Central Norseman** and **GMK** and for *stocks with a mixture of money* metals and base metals in their product such as **MIM, Bougainville** and **North Broken Hill.**

Coal Miners eased on the disappointing earnings report delivered by **Coal and Allied** on Monday night and the news that **Utah** had lost out on a coal loader deal in Queensland.

Shales were overshadowed by *the Golds and Silvers*, but Conventionals went well enough under the circumstances.

Industrials were surprisingly firm despite dealer preoccupation with Miners and the hints of a round of interest rises.

Sugars and light engineerings were particularly strong.

Germany

Some leading equities made gains, but the overall tone was weaker, reflected in the Commerzbank Index, down six points to 724.7

Bourse sources said there was a nervous and confused air on the market because of the Iraq/Iran conflict and contradictory reports about the fate of the U.S. hostages.

Leading Chemicals and Autos were lower, with **Daimler** down DM 2.6, while in Financials **Commerzbank** gained DM 1.80 after early losses, but **Deutsche**, DM 2.90 down at the opening was still DM 0.50 lower at the close.

Metallgesellschaft and Degussa gained DM 0.50 and DM 1 respectively, and Golds and Oils were firm. Engineerings tended slightly easier. **Horten** *was unchanged in otherwise* weaker Stores.

The Bundesbank bought DM 80.1m of public authority paper to steady the market, as prices fell up to DM 1.50, led down by a 1979 Bonn Government loan. Mark Eurobonds were also weak.

Hong Kong

Prices closed generally easier with some selected gains in heavy trading. The Hang Seng Index dropped 5.66 to finish at 1,308.12.

The market was unsettled by news of the Iran/Iraq conflict and many speculators either stayed on the sidelines or sought refuge in Precious Metals. Trade was inhibited by operators' squaring positions ahead of today's mid-autumn local holiday.

The market opened firm but retreated when profit-taking set in following Monday's massive gain. Selective buying in late morning trading helped regain part of the early loss. But the downtrend reappeared in the afternoon session.

Among *leaders*, **Cheung Kong** was unchanged at HK$29, **Hong Kong Bank** fell 20 cents to HK$18.10, **Hong Kong Electric** 10 cents to HK$6.90, **Swire Pacific "A"** 40 cents to HK$8.70 while **Hutchison Whampoa** added 10 cents to HK$13.90 and **Jardine Matheson** 20 cents to HK$28.00.

Elsewhere, **Associated Hotels** eased 10 cents to HK$8.10, **Hang Seng Bank** HK$3 to HK$138, and **Swire Properties** 30 cents to HK$9.10 while **Carrian Investments** rose 10 cents to HK$15.80, **Green Island Cement** 50 cents to HK$61.50 and **Hong Kong Gas** 30 cents to HK$27.30.

The Tokyo stock market was closed yesterday for a holiday.

Milan

Sstocks closed generally easier in active trading on the Middle East situation.

Assicurazioni Generali and some Banks strengthened but most other leading Industrial and Financial shares eased including **Fiat, both Pirelli, Snia Viscosa and Bastogi.**

Amsterdam

Prices closed mixed with **Royal Dutch** halving its opening gain, to Fl 1.90 and **KLM** Fl 1 lower in otherwise narrowly mixed Dutch Internationals.

Johannesburg

Gold shares fell erasing morning gains in most cases as the bullion price *fluctuated* widely *on confused reports of the* Middle East situation.

Singapore

Prices eased in trading that was very active for Malaysian shares but subdued in Singapore issues. Blue-chip Industrials and Properties closed generally weaker. Plantations eased and Banks were mixed.

Indices

NEW YORK —DOW JONES

	Sept. 22	Sept. 19	Sept 18	Sept. 17	Sept. 16	Sept. 15	1980 High	1980 Low	Since Cmpil't'n High	Since Cmpil't'n Low
♦Industr'ls	974.57	963.74	956.48	961.26	945.90	937.66	974.57 (22/9)	758.13 (21/4)	1051.70 (11/73)	41.22 (2/7/32)
H'me B'nds	68.01	68.21	68.26	69.22	68.14	68.98	76.61 (25/6)	63.87 (28/3)	—	—
Transport	350.02	346.62	346.09	345.91	339.01	329.48	350.02 (22/8)	253.96 (27/3)	346.92 (19/9/80)	12.23 (8/7/32)
Utilities	112.05	112.34	112.38	112.60	112.71	111.80	116.88 (8/7)	96.04 (27/3)	163.32 (20/4/69)	10.52 (28/4/42
TradingVol -000's†	53,140	53,780	65,880	63,890	57,290	44,630	—	—	—	—

♦Day's high 977.05 low 955.29

Ind. div. yield %	Sept. 19	Sept 12	Sept. 5	Year ago (approx
	5.58	5.74	5.72	5.56

STANDARD AND POORS

	Sept. 22	Sept. 19	Sept 18	Sept. 17	Sept. 16	Sept. 15	1980 High	1980 Low	Since Cmpil't') High	Since Cmpil't') Low
‡Indust'ls	148.55	146.65	145.88	146.41	143.86	142.67	148.55 (22/9)	111.09 (27/7)	146.83 (19/9/80)	3.52 (30/6/32
§Composite	130.40	129.25	128.40	128.87	126.74	125.67	130.40 (22/9)	98.22 (16/2)	129.25 (19/9/80)	4.40 (1/6/32)

	Sept. 17	Sept. 10	Sept. 3	Year ago (approx
Ind. div. yield %	4.54	4.69	4.64	5.06
Ind. P/E Ratio	8.91	8.62	8.61	8.04
Long Gov. Bond Yield	11.46	11.05	11.02	9.13

N.Y.S.E. ALL COMMON

Sept. 23	Sept. 19	Sept. 18	Sept. 17	1980 High	1980 Low
75.43	74.81	74.36	74.57	75.43 (22/9)	55.30 (22/9)

Rises and Falls	Sept. 22	Sept. 19	Sept. 18
Issues Traded	1,987	1,931	1,940
Rises	743	967	705
Falls	823	591	879
Unchanged	361	373	356
New Highs	191	193	234
New Lows	4	6	6

MONTREAL	Sept. 22	Sept. 19	Sept. 18	Sept. 17	1980 High	1980 Low
Industrial	391.88	387.80	391.55	397.29	425.88 (29/2)	323.21 (27/3)
Combined	367.74	365.16	367.59	371.86	378.90 (29/2)	296.90 (27/3)
TORONTO Composite	2,330.7	2,301.2	2314.1	2343.2	2343.2 (17/8)	1702.5 (27/3)

NEW YORK ACTIVE STOCKS

Monday	Stocks traded	Closing price	Change on day		Stocks traded	Closing price	Change on day
Burroughs	612,800	69½	−1⅛	Ral Purina	627,100	12½	+⅛
Pac Gas El	573,800	22⅞	−⅛	Texaco	504,500	34⅞	+½
Bankamer	587,000	25½	−⅛	Sunsh Mine	449,700	26	+3¼
IBM	566,700	68⅛	+1⅛	Benguet	446,600	15¼	+⅞
East Kodak	536,400	70⅞	+3⅞	Nat Semi	426,700	44⅞	+3½

	Sept. 23	Sept. 22	Sept. 19	Sept. 18	1980 High	1980 Low
AUSTRALIA						
Sydney All Ord. (1936/39)	995.49	993.17	990.22	994.62	995.49 (23/9)	760.00 (2/1)
Metal & Minrls. (1936/39)	6624.66	6542.26	6507.74	6507.16	6680.85 (14/2)	4581.26 (28/3)
AUSTRIA						
Credit Aktien (2/1/62)	66.32	66.41	66.49	66.47	69.40 (7/1)	65.59 (19/8)
BELGIUM						
Belgian SE (31/12/63)	93.28	90.27	90.57	91.42	105.75 (11/2)	90.14 (31/3)
DENMARK						
Copenhagen SE (1/1/73)	91.50	91.36	90.96	90.45	91.36 (22/9)	74.78 (6/3)
FRANCE						
CAC General (29/12/61)	110.4	110.9	111.70	112.5	117.8 (22/2)	97.1 (3/1)
Ind Tendance (28/12/79)	116.2	115.7	117.5	118.6	119.4 (15/9)	95.6 (3/1)
GERMANY						
FAZ-Aktien (31/12/58)	230.92	232.66	232.79	230.23	238.89 (25/2)	212.73 (28/6)
Commerzbank (Dec. 1953	724.7	730.7	731.10	722.1	749.2 (25/2)	667.0 (27/3)
HOLLAND						
ANP-CBS General (1970)	85.2	84.8	86.0	85.5	88.0 (25/7)	74.0 (27/3)
ANP-CBS Indust. (1970)	62.9	62.9	65.3	64.0	68.2 (11/1)	58.2 (28/3)
HONG KONG						
Hang Seng Bank (31/7/64)	1308.12	1313.78	1282.98	1253.76	1313.78 (22/9)	738.8 (19/3)
ITALY						
Banca Comm. Ital (1972)	137.95	137.05	137.49	134.88	137.95 (23/9)	88.11 (2/1)
JAPAN						
Dow Average (16/5/49)	(c)	7048.51	7041.88	7035.84	7048.51 (22/9)	6475.93 (27/3)
Tokyo New SE (4/1/68)	(c)	486.91	487.12	486.70	487.12 (19/9)	449.01 (10/3)
NORWAY						
Oslo SE (1/1/72)	125.58	124.27	124.74	126.66	144.70 (14/2)	110.12 (28/3)
SINGAPORE						
Straits Times (1966)	647.32	647.49	645.90	636.11	647.49 (22/9)	429.76 (3/1)
SOUTH AFRICA						
Gold (1958)	(u)	1026.1	—	991.3	991.3 (18/9)	949.5 (2/7)
Industrial (1958)	(u)	686.5	—	614.	827.1 (6/9)	468.9 (2/1)
SPAIN						
Madrid SE (28/12/79)	108.9	109.90	109.88	110.38	111.17 (16/9)	86.76 (13/5)
SWEDEN						
Jacobson & P. (1/1/58)	363.5	364.78	363.48	362.43	386.58 (8/2)	334.72 (17/1)
SWITZERLAND						
Swiss BankCpn. (31/12/58)	310.4	312.0	311.0	310.6	317.9 (11/2)	278.0 (28/4)
WORLD						
Capital Intl. (1/1/70)	(u)	156.2	155.6	155.1	156.2 (22/9)	120.5 (27/3)

Base values of all indices are 100 except NYSE All Common—50; Standard and Poors—10; and Toronto—1,000; the last named based on 1975. † Excluding bonds. ‡ 400 Industrials. § 400 Industrials plus 40 Utilities. 40 Financials and *20 Transports. c Closed. u Unavailable.*

COMMODITIES AND AGRICULTURE

Threat to palmoil shipments

KUALA LUMPUR — Iran's declaration of a war zone near its shores could cut the flow of Malaysian processed palm oil to Iraq, adding another bear factor to an already depressed market, the palm oil trade has warned.

As reported from Tehran on Monday, the military communiqué announcing the declaration also said Iran will not allow any merchant ship to carry cargo to Iraqi ports.

One trader said his company expected a vessel in port soon to take on 20,000 tonnes to 25,000 tonnes of palm oil for Iraq, but if an Iranian blockade succeeded, he could be forced to sell the cargo into Rotterdam at about $30 per tonne below the Iraqi price.

Oother traders said a blockade would add another bearish market factor to the current high stocks level in Malaysia *and the expected slowdown of* Indian demand.

Iraq has been an increasingly important market for Malaysian processed oil, with exports increasing from 18,000 tonnes *in 1978 to 68,000 tonnes in* 1979. January/April 1980 shipments totalled 37,000 tonnes.

Reuter

U.S. soyabean carryover stocks double

WASHINGTON — U.S. carryover stocks of old crop soyabeans on September 1 were a record 359m bushels, more than double last year's carryover of 174m bushels, the Agriculture Department reported.

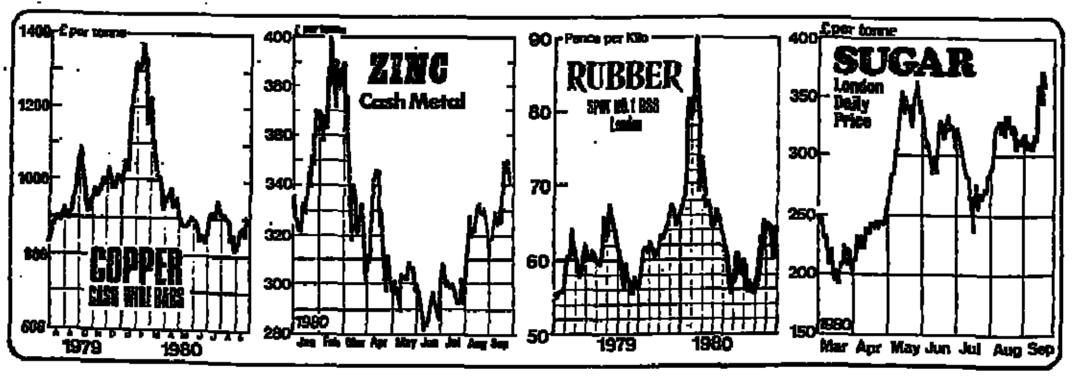
USDA said soyabeans stored on farms reached 129m bushels, or 36 per cent of the total stored in all positions, up 109 per cent from last year. Off-farm stocks of soyabeans at 230m bushels were 104 per cent above last year.

The department said soyabean use during the marketing year (September 1979 to August 1980) totalled 2.08bn bushels, as indicated by year-end stocks, up 12 per cent from the level a year ago.

Domestic soyabean crushings accounted for 1.12bn bushels, exports for about 873m bushels and seed use for about 67m

The department said indicated soyabean use from June to August this year was 416m bushels, up 18 per cent from the same period last year.

Reuter



Metal market erratic

BY JOHN EDWARDS, COMMODITIES EDITOR

METAL PRICES moved erratically on the London markets yesterday following conflicting reactions to the Iran-Iraq conflict, reflected by the fluctuations in the gold market.

Eventually *silver nad copper* ended the day higher on news that Iran's Abadan oil refinery was on fire. But earlier prices had suffered severe setbacks following the claims that the *Iranians* had released the U.S. hostages.

The London bullion spot quotation for silver at 968.35p a troy ounce was well down on Monday night's close although it was 11.65p. above the previous day's fixing level. However in the afternoon values moved ahead again and cash silver on the London Metal Exchange closed at 994.50p an ounce, 4.5p higher than the previous close.

Free market platinum followed the trend in gold and silver and finally gained £5.05 to £305.90 a troy ounce.

There was a simlar pattern in copper during a hectic day's trading. Cash wirebars eventually closed £7.25 higher on the day at £906 a tonne, but in early trading the price dropped below £900.

Other base metals were generally lower. They failed to recover early losses. Tin was weak, inspite of the rise in the Penang market overnight, and the cash price closed £125 down at £7,155 a tonne. Lead too lost ground. But worst hit was zinc, as speculators took their profits following the recent run-up in *values. Cash zinc lost £9.5 to* £341.5 a tonne.

Profit-taking in zinc was encouraged by a Reuter report from West Germany that trade sources thought the European producer price increases announced by A. M. and S. Europe and Cominco were out of step with market conditions.

Initial reaction from the market was that Cominco had probably been over ambitious in raising its price from $780 to $845 a tonne in one step compared with the modest rise to $805 announced by A. M. and S.

So far no other producer has followed the price rises and it is expected that smelters, without mine connections, will be particularly reluctant to follow especially to $845.

On the "soft" (non-metal) commodity markets there was a generally easier tone although prices were very unsetled.

World *sugar*, which has been the speculators' favourite recently, came under selling pressure. The London daily price for *raw* sugar was cut by £7 to £357 a tonne in the morning. On the futures market the January position closed £10.5 lower at £382.5 a tonne, after reaching £394 at one stage. There was said to be some apprehension that recent sales to Iran may be cancelled as a result of the conflict with Iraq.

In contrast natural rubber values continued to move ahead. The RSS No. 1 spot quotation rose by a further 1.5p to 64.25p a kilo after its 2.5p increase on Monday. Rubber has been a depressed market recently, but is considered to be one of the more war-sensitive commodities.

● New York Commodity Exchange (Comex) announced last night it is raising speculators' margin requirements in silver futures to $11,000 per contract from $8,500. Also, it will increase trade hedge margins from $5,000 to $7,000 per contract.

Mackerel quota exceeded

COPENHAGEN — Fishing vessels from EEC countries have exceeded their mackerel quota in the North Sea several times, Ivan Kristoffersen, deputy Norwegian Minister of Fishing, said yesterday.

He is leading a Norwegian *delegation which is touring* European capitals to impress upon governments that the mackerel stock is in danger of being destroyed.

Norwegian authorities have threatened to ban fishing by EEC countries inside the Norwegian 200-mile economic zone unless overfishing is halted.

Danish Government officials *admitted at talks this week that* Danish vessels so far had caught about 10,200 tonnes of mackerel and said that EEC vessels in all had caught over 20,000 tonnes while the total EEC quota in the North Sea for 1980 was fixed at 6,400 tonnes, Mr. Kristoffersen said.

Earlier this month, Norway renounced a fisheries agreement with the EEC and the Minister of Fisheries, Eivind Bolle, said the question of giving Norwegian fishermen an extra mackerel quota would be considered after the delegation completed its visits to Copen*hagen, London, Bonn and* Brussels.

The total North Sea mackerel quota was reduced from 145,000 tonnes in 1978 to only 55,500 tonnes this year after scientists *warned that the stock was in* danger. Norway's quota this year is 44,000 tonnes.

Reuter

Aluminium output slightly up

THE International Primary Aluminium Institute in London has said that world primary was 1.065m tonnes in August compared with 1.06m tonnes in July and 979,000 tonnes in August last year.

Production in North America was 478,000 tonnes against 479,000 in July and 434,000 in August last year, in Europe 304,000 against 306,000 and 289,000, and in East Asia 101,000 compared with 102,000 and 92,000. Reuter

Moves in coffee pact talks

By Our Commodities Staff

COFFEE producing countries yesterday suggested to consumers the possible price range within which export quotas might operate under the International Coffee Agreement.

No details were divulged, but it is understood that the producers would like to see a trigger price of about 160 cents a pound and a range of between 136 and 184 cents. *This compares with market* prices which have been averaging under 130 cents a pound.

The price proposal along with one for the controls system necessary for administering quotas was put to the ICO executive Board and later the consumer countries met to consider it. The meeting of consumers will resume this morning.

There is still a long way to go before an overall agreement can be reached, even if the consumers agree to take the suggested price range as a *starting point for negotiations.* In particular, the size of the global quota and the shares of each of the producing countries have to be *agreed.* Each of the producers would like to see its export quota based on its good years, eliminating most of the benefits that quotas are meant to bring to the market as a *whole.*

Some countries, especially the main western consumers, have said they prefer the prospect of a free market to the regimentation of quotas.

Robusta coffee futures closed lower yesterday on the London terminal market. November was down £28 at £1,073.5 a tonne at the close.

Cocoa indicator

THE INTERNATIONAL Cocoa Organisation has decided to *start* re-issuing daily indicator prices.

It discontinued doing so when the International Cocoa Agreement collapsed in March, but at the request of members and interested organisations it has agreed to resume the daily quotations on a slightly different formula. They are now described as futures prices and will be quoted for 10-day and 15-day average, as well as the daily price, instead of the 15- and 22-day averages previously.

BUMPER UK GRAIN CROP

Intervention policy saving the day

BY JOHN CHERRINGTON, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

ALTHOUGH the harvest in North East England and Scotland is as yet not finished, the indications are that there could be a record UK crop of rather more than 18m tonnes of grain.

So far the Ministry of Agriculture has estimated that the outturn for England and Wales is 16m tonnes and Scotland normally provides around 2m.

By all accounts wheat has been the crop of the year, with *many farmers claiming record* yields with some farm averages being more than three tonnes an acre. This result is in direct contradiction to accepted wisdom which holds that the recipe for good wheat *yields* is a hot and sunny July and August.

Winter barley yielded well, but in many areas spring barley suffered from the drought and it is possible that *when the crop* is weighed out the overall total may be somewhat reduced.

It must be emphasised here that harvest estimates are highly subjective, and being a farmer myself, I know how humiliating it is to be outyielded, even on paper, by my neighbours. That being said, though, there is a lot of grain about, and were it not for the *support provided under the* EEC intervention policy, grain prices would have been very bad indeed.

To begin with the malting outlet for barley is severely *affected by the fall in sales of* malt to Europe and in competition from French supplies of malted barley. Both whisky and beer sales have been drooping and many maltsters have stopped buying altogether for the time being; some have even, it is said, been leasing stores to the Intervention Board. Com*pound feed sales, too, are down* on last year.

The intervention system appears to be working well as far as barley is concerned.

At the moment offers of *barley are falling but those of* wheat are rising quite steeply. Farmers realise that millers are not particularly keen buyers in what they believe to be a bumper harvest. Pressure is likely to be maintained on the bread making wheat intervention because it only lasts until October 30. The intervention price for October wheat at £110.70 per tonne delivered, meaning an at-farm price of around £106 for the month, makes it an attractive proposition, against an average at-farm price for the best wheats of just *over £100 for that month.*

Barley sold to intervention should bring the farmer an at-farm price of around £95 in October. This compares with the present non-intervention feed price of at best £90 for the period, though feed barley standards in the trade generally are not as high as for intervention.

Barley *exports* have also been quite buoyant with 100,000 tonnes going out in August—the highest August figure for four years. It is believed that Poland will have credits for a further 200,000 tonnes.

Overall a very difficult market to read. But if yields are as good as stated and the home demand remains slack, it looks as though intervention could *draw an increasing amount of* the barley crop sooner rather than later, because the monthly increments in the intervention price of £1.15 per tonne do not cover the interest and money *needed to finance it. But with*out the EEC support, things would be disastrous.

STOCKS of grain held instore by the UK Intervention Board now total 181,255 tonnes, according to the latest figures available. The bulk of these stocks is barley, *accounting* for 179,058 tonnes. Oilseed rape holdings are 1,957 tonnes, breadmaking 210 tonnes and feed wheat 30 tonnes.

However there are a further *491,693* tonnes under offer to the Intervention Board. These includes 342,679 tonnes of barley; 143,454 tonnes of breadmaking whaet; 800 tonnes feed wheat; 4,460 tonnes oilseed rape and 300 tonnes of rye.

Not all these offerings will meet the Board's quality standards but quantities being offered to take advantage of the intervention prices are reported to be continuing to bulid up.

Warning on farm tax loophole

BY SARA DAVIES

Farming partnerships—which *enable the granting of tenancies* to the partners and so converting the value of the land from vacant possession to tenanted value—are coming under fresh scrutiny by the Inland Revenue.

Mr. Oliver Stanley, chief taxation adviser to the Country Landowners' Association warned farmers in North Wales yesterday that the farming partnership, which has been called the biggest tax saving mechanism in the UK farming industry, could prove a trap that would create immediaate tax liabilities far outweighing any future benefits.

Tihs *formula can reduce the* value of farm land by 40 per cent to 50 per cent. But, Mr. Stanley, said, the critical question was whether the reduction from vacant possession to tenanted land triggered immediate liability to capital transfer tax because of the diminuation in the value of the estate.

The Revenue took the view that they would charge CTT where the granting of a tenancy to a farming partnership was followed closely by a transfer of the reversion. This move was directed against new pertnerships where the Revenue felt there was a strong suspicion of "artificiality."

Mr. Stanley was speaking at a conference on capital taxation *at Denbigh. The Association's* taxation secretary, Mr. Richard Williams said that capital taxes, particularly CTT were heavily biased against owners who let their land.

The Government had acknowledged the problem, but as yet no action had been taken, he said.

BRITISH COMMODITY MARKETS

COPPER—Firmer on balance on the London Metal Exchange after a day of hectic trading. Forward metal opened at £935 and moved up to £940 follow*ing the initial rise in gold. News that* the American hostages had been released prompted heavy selling and the price dropped to £915 before recovering to £932 on the denial. Values rose in the afternoon as a worsening of the Iraq-Iran conflict prompted renewed speculative buying and three months rose to £938 before closing the late Kerb at £933. Turnover 23,900 tonnes.

COPPER	a.m. Official	+ or —	p.m. Unofficial	+ or —
	£	£	£	£
Wirebars				
Cash	898-9	+16	905-7	+7.25
3 months	927-.5	+16.7	934-5	+7.25
Settlem't	899	+16	—	
Cathodes				
Cash	870-2	+16	875-8	+2.5
3 months	898-9	+16	904-7	+3
Settlem't	872	+16	—	......
U.S. Prod		......	*98.7-104	......

Amalgamated Metal Trading reported that in the morning three months traded at £918, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 23, 24, 23, 22, 21, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 25, 26, 27, 28, 27.5, 27, 27.5. *Cathodes: Cash untraded, three months* £899. Kerb: Wirebars, three months £923, 30, 29, 28, 27, 26. Cathodes: Untraded. Afternoon: Wirebars, Cash untraded, three months £920, 21, 22, *23, 22.5,* 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 35, 34, 33, 34. Cathodes: Untraded. Kerb: Wirebars, three months £934, 35, 36, 35, 34, 35, 34, 33. Cathodes: Untraded.

TIN—*Lost ground on general* liquidation. After opening at £7,350 forward metal fell sharply to £7,265 before closing the late Kerb at £7,270, with the contango widening to £100. Turnover: 885 tonnes.

TIN	a.m. *Official*	+ or —	p.m. Unofficial	+ or —
High Grade	£	£	£	£
Cash	7170-80	-67.5	7150-60	—125
3 months	7280-90	-47.5	7260-65	—105
Settlem't	7180	—65	—	......
Standard				
Cash	7170-80	-67.5	7150-60	—125
3 months	7280-90	—47.5	7260-65	—105
Settlem't	7180	—65	—	......
Straits.E.	†$2215	+17	—	......
New York	—	......		

Morning: Standard, Cash £7,190, 80, 70, three months £7,310, 7,300, 7,290, 80. High Grade: Untraded. Kerb: *Standard three months £7,280. High* Grade: Untraded. Afternoon: Standard, Cash untraded, three months £7,270, 65, 70, 80. High Grade: Untraded. Kerb: Standard, three months £7,270. High Grade: Untraded.

LEAD—Easier on lack of interest and speculative selling. Forward metal opened at £404 and thereafter fell away to close the late Kerb at £393, with one or two attempts at a *rally* failing to follow-through. Turnover: 7,375 tonnes.

LEAD	a.m. Official	+ or —	p.m. Unofficial	+ or —
	£	£	£	£
Cash	378.5-9.5	-4.25	382-3	-3.5
3 months	397-.5	-2.37	398-8.5	-5
S'ment	379.5	-4	—	......
U.S. Spot	—	......	*42-44	......

Morning: Cash £382, 81, 80.5, 79, three months £397, 98, 96, 97, 96.5, 96, 98, 98.5, 98, 97.5, 97. Kerb: three *months* £397, 96. *Afternoon: Cash* untraded, three months £395, 94, 93, 93.5, 94, 98, 99, 98, 98.5. Kerb: Three months £397, 95, 94, 93.

ZINC—*Lower* as speculative selling and profit-taking followed the recent producer price rises by AM & S and Cominco. Forward metal opened at £361 and fell away to £350 before closing the late Kerb at £353.5. Turnover: 6,650 tonnes.

ZINC	a.m. Official	+ or —	p.m. Unofficl'	+ or —
	£	£	£	£
Cash	342.5-3.5	—62.5	341-2	—9.5
3 months	352.5-4	-7.25	352.5-3	-8.75
S'ment	343.5	—6.5	—	......
Primw'ts	—	......	*37.5-37.75	—

Morning: Cash untraded, three months £357, 56, 55, 54, 53, 52, 53, 54, 54.5, 56, 55, 53. Kerb: Three months £353, 52, 51, 50. Afternoon: Cash untraded, three months £351, 50, 55, 54, 54.5, 54, 53. Kerb: Three months £353.

ALUMINIUM—*Neglected* with forward metal easing from £704 to £698 before closing at £698.5. *Turnover: 5,700* tonnes.

Alumin'm	a.m. Official	† + or —	p.m. Unoffic'l	† + or —
	£	£	£	£
Spot	681-2	+2.25	680-2	+4
3 months	697-.5	+1.25	697-8	—6.75

Morning: Cash untraded, three months £694, 95, 96, 97, 98, 97.5. Kerb: Untraded. Afternoon: Cash untraded, three months £697, 98. Kerb: Three months £698.

NICKEL—*Steady.* Forward metal moved between £2,880 and £2,850 before closing the late Kerb at £2,872.5. Turnover: 384 tonnes.

NICKEL	a.m. *Official*	+ or —	p.m. *Unoffici'l*	+ or —
Spot	2830-40	+45	2830-40	—10
3 months	2865-72	+48.5	2872-4	—2

Morning: Cash untraded, three *months* £2,860, 65, 70, 72, 75, 80, 70. Kerb: Untraded. Afternoon: Cash untraded, three months £2,870, 65, 66, 69, 70. Kerb: Three months £2,873.

* Cents per pound. ‡ $M per picul. † On previous unofficial close.

SILVER

Silver was fixed 11.65p an ounce higher for spot delivery in the London bullion market yesterday at 968.35p. U.S. equivalents of the fixing levels were: spot $23.25, up 33c; three-month *$23.975, up 39.1c; six-month $24.825,* up 40.8c; and 12-month $26.55, up 55c. The metal opened at £10.00-£10.03 ($24.20-24.60) and closed at £9.89-£10.20 ($23.75-24.50).

SILVER per troy oz.	Bullion fixing price	+ or —	L.M.E. p.m. Unoffic'l	+ or —
Spot	968.35p	+11.6	994.5p	+4.5
3 months	1007.35p	+14.6	1023p	+6.5
6 months	1044.90p	+14.2	—	......
12months	1120.20p	+20.2	—	......

LME—Turnover 252 (257) lots of 10,000 ozs. Morning: Three months 970, 80, 95, 1000, 999, 1015, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 43, 41. Kerb: Three months 1035, 32. Afternoon: Three months *1030,* 28, 30, 33, 35, 37, 39, 40, 37, 30. Kerb: Three months 1035, 33, 35, 30.

COTTON

LIVERPOOL—Spot and shipment sales amounted to 493 tonnes, the total for the week so far. *A much larger off*take ensued, following a rather quiet trading period. Interest was shown over a wide range of qualities, including various North and South American styles.

COCOA

After opening lower as expected prices remained steady on continued commission house support and closed at levels little changed, reports Gill and Duffus.

COCOA	Yesterd'ys Close	+ or —	Business Done
Sep	1013-20	—3.5	1015-13
Dec	1036-38	—3.5	1040-28
March	1073-74	+1.0	1076-62
May	1093-94	+4.5	1095-82
July	1112-13	+3.5	1115-05
Sept	1129-32	+3.0	1132-24
Dec	1148-50	+3.5	1150-49

Sales: 2,406 (2,632) lots of 10 tonnes.

ICCO futures: Daily price for Sept. 22: 112.62 (109.89). Indicator prices for Sept. 23: 10-day average 110.20 (109.71): 15-day average 108.49 (107.94).

COFFEE

A weaker than anticipated market saw values £25-£30 lower during a moderately active morning session, *reports Drexel Burnham Lambert. No* fresh features emerged during the afternoon, but prices recovered on dealer profit-taking combined with short-covering which reflected a technical retracement following the recent downward trend. Towards the close prices *drifted* lower as jobbers scrambled to square their positions.

COFFEE	yesterday's Close	+ or —	Business Done
	£ per tonne		
Sept	1021-25	—19.5	1028-20
Nov	*1173-74*	—28.0	1110-1073
January	1090-95	—32.0	1125-1080
March	1090-95	—29.5	1120-1085
May	1095-05	—33.0	1130-1083
July	1110-20	—30.0	1140-20
Sept	1125-35	—7.5	1135

Sales 3,891 (3,812) lots of 5 tonnes.

ICO Indicator *prices* for Sept. 22: (U.S. cents per pound). Other Mild Arabicas 128.50 (124.00). Robustas ICA 1976 126.00 (125.00). ICA 1968 126.25 (125.25). Unwashed Arabicas 211.75 (211.00). Comb. daily ICA 1968 167.75 (166.42).

GRAINS

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES—The market opened 15p down and drifted to 30p down in very quiet trade. However, at these levels there was good commercial support which continued throughout *the day in an otherwise featureless* market, reports Acli.

	WHEAT		BARLEY	
M'nth	Yesterday close	+ or —	Yesterday close	+ or —
Nov	99.15	+0.35	93.35	+0.28
Jan	103.35	+0.25	97.55	+0.15
Mar	107.10	+0.30	101.10	+0.10
May	110.65	+0.30	104.70	—0.85
July	114.35	—0.70	—	—

Business done—Wheat: Nov. 99.20-98.55, Jan. 103.40-102.85, March 107.10-106.55, May 110.65-110.20, July 114.25-114.25. Sales 174 lots of 100 tonnes. Barley: Nov. 93.35-93.00, Jan. 97.60-97.10, March 101.20-100.85, May 104.75-104.40. Sales: 222 lots of 100 tonnes.

LONDON GRAINS—Wheat: U.S. Dark Northern Spring No. 2 14 per cent: Oct. 99, Nov. 100.35, Dec. 103.10, transhipment East Coast. U.S. Hard Winter 13½ per cent: Oct. 97.80, Nov. 99.50, Dec. 101, transhipment East Coast. U.S./French: Sept. 122, Oct. 120.50 East Coast. South African Yellow: Oct. and Nov. 89. Barley: English Feed, fob: Oct. 95, Nov. 97, Dec. 99.50 East Coast. Rest unquoted.

HGCA—Locational ex-farm spot prices. Feed barley: S.-East 89.60, *S.-West* 88.00, W. Midlands 85.40, *N.-West* 86.00. Other milling wheat: W. Midlands 96.40.

JUTE

JUTE—Oct. C and F Dundee: BWC £217, BWD £178, BTB £254, BTC £217, *BTD £182. Antwerp Oct.:* BWC $505, BWD $428, BTB $581, BTC $505, BTD $429. Jute goods C and F Dundee Oct.: 40 in 10 oz £11.62, 40 in 7½ oz £9.01. 8 Twills £32.49.

RUBBER

The London physical market opened quietly steady, gradually moved up during the day on Middle East tension, closing on a steady note. Lewis and Peat reported a fob October price for No. 1 RSS in Kuala Lumpur of 310.5 (304.5) cents a kilo and SMR 20 at *268.5 (264).*

No. 1 R.S.S.	Yest'day Close	Previous Close	Business Done
Oct	65.50-65.60	64.90-65.20	65.60
Nov.	66.60-67.00	64.60-64.00	66.80
Oct-Dec	66.50-66.80	64.60-64.90	66.70-65.50
Jan-Mar	70.60-70.70	68.80-69.90	70.80-68.60
Apr-Jne	74.10-74.20	72.20-72.30	74.30-72.20
Jly-Sept	77.20-77.40	75.20-75.40	77.40-75.80
Oct-Dec	79.70-79.80	77.80-77.90	79.80-77.80
Jan-Mar	82.60-82.70	80.50-80.60	82.60-81.00
Apl-Jne.	85.30-85.40	83.10-83.20	84.20

Sales 1,146 (476) at 15 tonnes: 7 (15) at 5 tonnes.

Physical closing prices (buyer) were: Spot 64.25p (64.50p): Oct. 65.00p (64.50p): Nov. 66.00p (65.50p).

SOYABEAN MEAL

The London market opened with losses of £1.00 on long liquidation, reports T. G. Roddick. Prices soon found support on trade buying and advanced to show gains of £1.00 before *running into profit-taking.* The market closed on a steady tone with the con*cern over the Iraq/Iran situation.*

	Yest'rday Close	+ or —	Business Done
	£ per tonne		
October	128.40-28.7	+0.70	129.00-128.00
December	134.80-34.9	—	135.00-133.50
February	137.70-37.8	—0.25	138.90-137.00
April	138.80-38.9	—0.15	139.00-138.00
June	139.00-39.5	—0.75	—
August	134.00-40.0	—3.5	—
October	137.70-38.0	—3.15	140.30-138.00

Sales 398 (412) lots of 100 tonnes.

SUGAR

LONDON DAILY PRICE (raw sugar): £357.00 (£364.00) a tonne cif for Sept.-Oct.-Nov. shipments. White sugar daily price was £365.00 (£378.00).

The market opened some £6 below overnight levels and thereafter prices fluctuated within a £3 range throughout the day. However, final prices were around the lower end of the day's range, reports C. Czarnikow.

No. 4 Contract	Yest'rdays Close	Previous Close	Business Done
	£ per tonne		
Oct	361.50-62.50	375.25-74.00	371.00-62.50
Jan	381.00-84.00	382.00-84.00	384.00-80.00
Mch	394.50-94.80	406.50-06.75	410.50-392.0
May	392.90-93.10	406.00-06.50	408.00-393.0
Aug	380.75-81.00	391.80-92.00	392.00-81.00
Oct	362.50-64.00	371.80-72.00	372.00-65.50
Jan	331.00-35.00	340.00-44.00	333.50

Sales: 13,890 (9,084) lots of 50 tonnes.

NUMBER 2 CONTRACT—Close (in order buyer, seller, business, sales). Oct. 363.00, 365.00, 371.00-361.50, 196. Sales 196 (181).

Tate and Lyle ex-refinery price for granulated basis white sugar was £342.6 (same) a tonne for home trade and £447.50 (£455.00) for export.

International Sugar Agreement (U.S. cents per pound fob and stowed Caribbean port). Prices for Sept. 22: Daily price 37.09 (36.90): 15-day average 34.09 (33.71).

WOOL FUTURES

LONDON NEW ZEALAND CROSSBREDS—Close: (in order buyer, seller, busines, sales). New Zealand cents per kilo. Oct. 382, 370, 364, 5; Dec. 372, 374, 372-371, 5; Jan. 374, 377, *374-372, 4; March 378, 378, 374, 1;* May 378, 380, 378-377, 3; Aug. 381, 385, 380, 1; Oct. 382, 386, 383-382, 2; Dec. 384, 387, 382, 1; Jan. 384, 387, nil, nil; March 384, 388, nil, nil. Sales: 22.

SYDNEY GREASY WOOL—Close (in *order buyer, seller, business, sales).* Australian cents per pound. Oct. 472.0, 473.0, 475.5-471.5, 70; Dec. 483.5, 484.0, 493.8-483.5, 159; March 498.5, 499.0, 499.5-496.8, 290; May 505.0, 506.0, 506.0-504.5, 131; July 509.0, 510.0, 511.0-508.5, 127; Oct. 505.0, 507.0, 506.0-504.0, 29; Dec. 506.0, 507.0, 507.0-507.0, 5; March 509.0, 510.0, 509.0-509.0, 5. Sales: 816.

PRICE CHANGES

In tonnes unless otherwise stated.

	Sept. 23 1980	+ or —	Month ago
Metals			
Aluminium	£810/815	......	£810/815
Free Mkt	$1690/1698	......	$1680/18[illegible]
Copper			
Cas w'bar	£906	+7.25	£851
3 mths	£934.5	+7.25	£867.75
Cash Cathode	£876.5	+2.5	£824
3 mths	£905.5	+3	£844.5
Gold troy oz	$716	+4.5	$631.5
Lead Cash	£382.5	—3.5	£362.5
3 mnths	£398.25	—5	£375.75
Nickel	£3,205.00	......	£3,186.43
Freemkt (cif) (lb)	290/315c	......	290/315c
Platin'mtr'y oz	£202	......	£182.50
Free mkt	£305.9	+5.05	£274.4
Quicksilver†	$415/425	+5	$410/420
Silver troy oz	968.35p	+11.65	678.45p
3 mths	1007.35p	+14.85	705.60p
Tin Cash	£7,155	—125	£7,102
3 mths	£7,262.5	—105	£7,115.5
Tungsten 22.04lb	$145.76	......	$144.74
Wolfrm 22.04 lbs	$151/154	......	$149/155
Zinc cash	£341.5	—9.5	£327.25
3 months	£352.75	—8.75	£338.75
Producers	$780	......	$780
Oils			
Coconut (Phil)	$602.5w	......	$615
Groundnut	‡	......	‡
Linseed Crude	£398	......	£397
Palm Malayan	525v	......	$525
Seeds			
Copra Philip	$390x	......	$420
Soyabean (U.S.)	‡	......	$322
Grains			
Barley Futures	£97.55	+0.15	£93.25
Maize			
French No3AM	£122	......	‡
Wheat			
No.1 Red Spg.	‡	......	‡
No2HardWint	£97.80t	—0.85	£95.75
Eng. Milling†	‡	......	‡
Other commodities			
Cocoa ship't	£1,103	—3	£1,057
Future Dec.	£1057	—3.5	£996.5
CoffeeF t' Nov.	£1,073.5	—28	£1,133
Cotton A Index	100.20c	+0.30	98.30c
Rubber (kilo)	64.25p	+1.75	62p
Sugar (Raw)	£357	—7	£304
Woolt'ps 64s ki.	291p kilo	......	286p kilo

‡ Unquoted. t Oct. u Sept.-Oct. v Nov. z Indicator. § Buyer. † Per 76-lb flask. * Nominal.

POTATOES

LONDON POTATO FUTURES—Buying interest continued pushing April to a new high (previously 60.50) and the market closed on a strong note, reports *Way and Harper. Closing prices:* Nov. 44.00 +30 (high 44.00, low 42.50); Feb. 52.50 +80 (high 52.50, low 51.00): April 60.60 +60 (high 60.00, low 58.50). Turnover: 94 (140) lots of 40 tonnes.

★

MEAT COMMISSION—Average fatstock prices at representative markets on September 23. GB—Cattle 68.82p per kg liveweight (—0.77). UK—Sheep 110.94p per kg edcw (—3.05). GB—Pigs 66.07p per kg liveweight (+0.17).

SMITHFIELD—*Pence per pound.* Beef: Scottish killed sides 60.0 to 64.5; Eire hindquarters 70.6 to 73.8 forequarters 41.8 to 43.7. Veal: Dutch hinds and ends 102.0 to 106.0. Lamb: English small 52.2 to 58.0, medium 50.8 to 55.0, heavy 44.4 to 50.8; Imported frozen: New Zealand PL 56.0 to 57.0, PM 49.5 to 50.0. Pork: English, under 100 lb 40.0 to 49.0, 100-120 lb 38.0 to 47.0, 120-160 lb 37.0 to 45.0. Grouse: Young best (each) 200.0-240.0, old (each) 100.0-140.0.

★

GRIMSBY FISH—Supply fair, demand good. Prices at ship's side (unprocessed) per stone: Shelf cod £6.00-£7.00, codlings £3.80-£4.80. Medium haddock £1.60-£2.40, small £1.80-£2.40. Large plaice £6.40, medium £5.00-£6.00, best small £2.50-£3.80. Skinned dogfish *(large)* £8.00-£9.50, (medium) £6.00-£7.00. Lemon soles (large) £10.00 (medium) £8.50. Reds £2.40.

AMERICAN MARKETS

NEW YORK, Sept. 23.

THE PIG crop estimate released by the Government reflected numbers higher than trade expectations putting the hog complex limit down and the cattle *markets sharply lower. Grains and* soyabeans traded slightly higher on commercial buying. Precious metals fell due to profit-taking, copper continued to attract good speculative interest. With the frost scare passed coffee prices plunged lower. Hedging pushed cocoa values moderately lower. Follow-through sales forced cotton prices sharply lower. Sugar prices backed off sharply on fears of disrupted shipments to the Middle East, reported Heinhold.

Copper—Sept. 99.95 (99.45), Oct. 100.60 (99.60), Nov. 101.50, Dec. 102.20-102.50, Jan. 103.15, March 104.50-104.90, May 105.90-106.20, July 107.80, Sept. 109.05, Dec. 111.40, Jan. 112.10, March 113.65, May 115.20, July 116.75. Sales: 14,500.

Potatoes (round whites)—Nov. 91.7 (96.5), March 132.3 (137.3), April 154.1. Sales: 2,932.

Sugar—No. 11: Oct. 36.50-36.55 (37.41), Jan. 38.25-38.70 (39.45), March 39.50-39.60, May 39.30-39.50, July 38.75-38.80, Sept. 37.35-37.40, Oct. 36.60, Jan. 34.05-34.10.

Tin—803.0-815.0 (815.0-825.0).

CHICAGO, Sept. 23.

Lard—Chicago loose 22.75 (same). New York prime steam unavailable.

Live Cattle—Oct. 67.65-67.55 (68.17), Dec. 69.57-69.52 (70.17), Jan. 70.95-70.90, Feb. 71.30-71.20, April 73.17-73.25, June 74.20, Aug. 73.65, Oct. —, *Dec. 74.00.*

Live Hogs—Oct. 46.25-46.30 (47.75), Dec. 49.62 (51.12), Feb. 52.77, April 51.95, June 54.85, July 55.85, Aug. 55.25, Oct. 53.90, Dec. 54.50.

‡‡Maize—Dec. 356¼-356½ (355¾), *March* 367¾-368 *(367¼)*, May 373½-373½, July 371¾, Sept. 363-362½, Dec. 353¾-354.

Pork Bellies—Feb. 68.07 (70.07), March 68.02 (70.02), May 69.37, July 69.85, Aug. 68.60.

Silver—Sept. 2360.0 (2380.0), Oct. 2344.5 (2264.5), Nov. —, Dec. 2397.5, Feb. 2450.5, April 2503.5, June 2556.5, Aug. 2609.5, Oct. 2662.5, Dec. 2715.5, Feb. 2769.5, April 2823.5, June 2877.5, Aug. 2931.5, Oct. 2985.5, Nov. —, April —.

†Soyabeans—Nov. — (863½), Jan. 887-889 (884½), March 909½-913, May *916-916½*, July *915½*, Aug. 905, *Sept.* 865-866, Nov. 835.

Soyabean Oil — Oct. 27.11-27.15 (27.7), Dec. 27.75-27.85 (27.85), Jan. 28.10-28.05, March 28.56-28.60, May 28.80-28.76, July 29.05-29.10, Aug. 28.80-28.90, Sept. 28.75-28.80, Oct. 28.40-28.50, Dec. —.

†Wheat — Dec. 512-509½ (504½), March 531-529 (523¾), May 537-537½, July 572, Sept. 540, Dec. 550.

WINNIPEG, Sept. 23. §Barley—Oct. 138.50 (139.00), Dec. 141.10 (141.60), March 142.00, May 142.00, July 142.00. [illegible]

All cents per pound ex-warehouse unless otherwise stated. * $ per troy ounce. ¶ Cents per troy ounce. ‡‡ Cents per 56-lb bushel. † Cents per 60-lb bushel. ‖ $ per short ton (2,000 lbs). § $Can. per metric ton. §§ $ per 1,000 sq feet. ‡ Cents per *dozen.*

EUROPEAN MARKETS

ROTTERDAM, Sept. 23.

Wheat—*U.S. No Two Dark Hard* Winter 13.5 per cent Oct. $214, Nov. *$218, Dec. $222, Jan. $228, Feb. $232,* March $235. U.S. No. Two Red Winter Oct. $210, Nov. $215. U.S. No Two Northern Spring 14 per cent Sept. $214.50, Oct $216, Nov. $218, Dec. $224, Jan. $243, Feb. $245, March $248.

Maize—AFL $162.50, Sept. $161.75, Oct. $161.75, *Nov. $165.25,* Dec. $169, Jan./March $175, April/June $177.50, July/Sept. $176, Oct./Dec. $174.

Soyabeans—U.S. Two Yellow Gulfports Sept./Oct. $337.50, Oct. $340.50, Nov. $343.25, Dec. $352.25, Jan. $357.75, Feb. $364, March $365-75, April $369, May $370 sellers, Jan. $357 paid. Argentine Sept. $333.50, Sept./Oct. $335.50, Oct. $336.80 sellers.

Soyameal—44 per cent protein U.S. AFL $293, Sept. $301, Oct. $307, Nov. $311, Nov./March $316, Brazil Pellets afl $298, Oct. $314, Nov. $322, Nov./March $327.

PARIS, Sept. 23.

Cocoa (FFr per 100 kilos)—Sept. 950/1030, Dec. 1020/1030, March 1037/1035, May 1165/1190, July 1175, Sept. 1185. Sales at call 0.

Sugar (FFr per 100 kilos)—Nov. 3780, Dec. 3720/3730, March 3875/3885, May 3870/3900, July 3780/3850, Aug. 3820/3890, Oct. 3650/3750, Nov. unquoted. Sales at call 0.

INDICES

FINANCIAL TIMES

Sept.22	Sept.19	Mnth ago	Year ago
281.92	279.12	—	295.22

(Base: July 1, 1952=100)

MOODY'S

Sept.22	Sept.19	M'nth ago	Year ago
1351.9	1504.0	1229.7	1152.3

(December 31, 1931=100)

DOW JONES

Dow Jones	Sept. 22	Sept. 19	Month ago	Year ago
Spot	467.02	463.81	440.14	410.36
F'tur's	481.56	47.8.67	463.15	415.72

(Average 1924-25-26=100)

REUTERS

Sept.23	Sept. 22	M'nth ago	Year ago
1767.8	1769.1	1727.2	1636.1

Base: September 18, 1931=100)

COVENT GARDEN—Prices in sterling per package except where otherwise stated: Imported Produce: Oranges—(boxes of 72) S. African: 5.30-5.85; Brazilian: 4.40. Lemons—Italian: 100/150 5.00; Spania: Trays 25/45 2.40-2.80, boxes 5.50-8.00; Outspan: Trays 45/75 4.50-4.60; Turkish: 5.50-6.00; Cyprus: 90/105 6.80. Grapefruit—Dominican: 36/63 7.50; Honduras: 36/48 6.30-6.50. Tangerines—Brazilian: Honey ½ boxes 4.30-4.50. Apples—French: Golden Delicious approx. 20 lb. 72 1.90-2.00, 84 1.70, 40 lb 125/163 3.50-4.00, Granny Smith 20 lb 72 2.80, 84 2.50; Spanish: Granny Smith 40 lb 4.50-6.00; Dutch: Cox's Orange Pippins, jumble pack, per pound 0.15. Pears—French: Per 28 lb Williams 2.80-3.20; Italian: Per pound Williams 0.13-0.17; Dutch: Beurrre Hardy per pound 0.09-0.10. Peaches—Italian: 1½ trays Hales 2.00-2.80, Others 1.80-2.60. Nectarines—Italian: 3.00-6.00. Plums—Italian: Boxes, Stanleys/Giant Prunes per pound 0.12-0.13. Grapes—Italian: Regina per pack 1.30-2.00, Wine per pound 0.10; Cyprus: 11 lb Rosaki 1.80, Alphonse 1.80, Sultana 1.50; Spanish: Almeria 1.20-1.80. Melons—Spanish: Yellow 10 kg 2.20-2.60, Green 7/11's 2.60-2.80. Bananas—Jamaican: 28 lb, per pound 0.19. Tomatoes—Jersey: 2.00-2.20; Dutch: 2.60; Guernsey: 2.20-2.60. Onions—Spanish: 2.20-2.80; Dutch: 2.30, Picklers 2.80. Cabbages—Dutch: White 2.80-3.00.

English Produce: Potatoes—Per bag, new 1.20-1.80. Mushrooms—Per pound 0.20-0.70. Apples—Per pound Howgate 0.05-0.07, Derby 0.06-0.07, Laxton 0.12, Tydeman's Early Worcester 0.05-0.10, Bramleys 0.08-0.10, Worcester Pearmain 0.06-0.12, Cox's Orange Pippins 0.16-0.20. Pears—Per pound Williams 0.10, Conference 0.09-0.11, Bristol Cross 0.09. Plums—Per 12 lb Damsons 1.80-2.00, Marjorie Seedlings 2.00-2.40, Laxton Cropper 1.20-1.40. Strawberries—Per ½ lb 0.25-0.30. Cabbages—Per bag 1.40, *White cabbage 2.50-2.80.* Cauliflowers—Per 12 3.00-3.40. Beetroots—Per bag 1.00 Cucumbers—Trays 10/20 1.80-2.60. Tomatoes—Per 12 lb 2.00-2.40. Lettuce—Per 12 round 1.20, Cos 1.20, Webbs 1.20. Sprouts—Per pound 0.10. Corn Cobs—Each 0.10. Carrots—*New crop 28 lb 0.90-1.30.* Onions—Per bag 1.50-2.30, Picklers 2.80. Celery—Per pack 20/30 2.40-2.50.

هكذا من الأصل

Conflicting Middle East reports cause Golds to gyrate Oils firm but leading equities and Gilts ease late

Account Dealing Dates
Option

*First Dealings	Declarations	Last Dealings	Account Day
Sept. 15	Sept. 25	Sept. 26	Oct. 6
Sept. 29	Oct. 9	Oct. 10	Oct. 20
Oct. 13	Oct. 23	Oct. 24	Nov. 3

* "New time" dealings may take place from 9 am two business days earlier.

Another dispirited and idle session in the two main investment sectors of London stock markets contrasted vividly with the volatility of South African Golds and, to a lesser extent, Oil shares in reaction to conflicting reports from the Middle East. A Baghdad radio report that the U.S. hostages in Iran had been released brought swift responses in most London financial and commodity markets. Without exception Gold shares fell back from a strong opening and Oils followed before both sections steadied when the report was found to be in error.

Golds subsequently began to recover on the back of the bullion price and improved further late in the day on reports of intensified fighting between Iraq and Iran and of damage to oil installations. Down as much as five points at one stage, heavyweight Golds were less than half that amount lower at the close and the FT Gold Mines index, at 485.1, surrendered 16.3—nearly a third of Monday's unprecedented rise of 54.1. Domestic Oils, too, were heading higher after-hours and established rises extending to 12 pence.

In the two main sectors, the only positive development was a steadier undertone than of late. Government securities managed a limited recovery in thin trading which lifted selected shorts by ⅛ before the gains were reduced to about ⅛; an exception was Treasury 15 per cent 1985, which gained ⅛ to 107⅞. Current trading stocks at the longer end of the market were also ⅛ higher prior to settling with sporadic rises ranging from ⅛ to ¼. The £50-paid long tap, Exchequer 12 per cent 1998 "A," rallied to 49½ before ending a net ¼ dearer at 49¼, or ¾ discount on the issue price.

Gaining some comfort from Wall Street's overnight firmness, leading shares hovered either side of their opening levels. Individual features were scarce and the slowness of business later began to affect sentiment with the tone showing some deterioration after the official close. Illustrating this, the FT Industrial Ordinary share index, after being marginally firmer for much of the day, closed lower for the fourth consecutive trading session in ending 2.2 down at 485.1.

The volume of business in the Traded option market contracted yesterday with the number of deals completed down to 1,729 from the previous day's 2,687 despite details of the Inland Revenue's significant new tax concession for the market.

Kleinwort Benson firm

Kleinwort Benson rose 8 to 230p in response to the increased interim dividend and indications of substantially higher first-half profits. Elsewhere in a fairly lethargic banking sector, Bank of Scotland improved 3 to 291p on satisfactory half-year results. Barclays softened a couple of pence to 430p but the other major clearers hardened a shade.

In sharp contrast to the good figures returned by Willis Faber last week, Stewart Wrightson yesterday reported a 15 per cent contraction in first-half earnings and the shares reacted from an initial firm level of 235p to finish a net 14 down at 218p.

The Building sector displayed a couple of firm features in Barratt Developments, up 14 to 156p in response to the good annual results and proposed one-for-four scrip issue, and Armitage Shanks, 6½ to the good at 112p, after 113p, pending the outcome of the Monopolies Commission inquiry into Blue Circle's bid for the company. Blue Circle hardened a couple of pence to 354p following the successful rights issue. Most other issues drifted lower for want of attention. Wimpey shedding 2 to 91p ahead of tomorrow's half-yearly results. Brown and Jackson, also reporting tomorrow, gave up 4 to 124p.

Comment on the disappointing interim results clipped 2 more from Fisons, 203p. ICI traded quietly around the overnight level of 354p before closing a net 2 off at 352p. Among other Chemicals, scrappy selling left Allied Colloids 4 cheaper at 123p and Brent 7 lower at 139p.

Kean & Scott up again

Having jumped 32 the previous day on the bid approach from Hawley Leisure, Kean and Scott rose 5 more to 70p; it was announced yesterday that Levex holds a 7.73 per cent stake in K and S. Elsewhere in Stores, Amber Day hardened a fraction to 27½p as the increased dividend payment outweighed news of the lower profits. Corneil Dresses put on 4 more to 66p but, following the reduced interim profits, John Menzies cheapened 2 to 257p. Ladies Pride gave up 2 to 42p and Polly Peck 3 to 107p.

Electrical leaders drifted off in fairly quiet trading, falls of 4 being marked against GEC, 520p, and Plessey, 243p. Secondary issues held up relatively well after with the previous day's sharp losses. Among the occasional dull spots, Automated Security met fresh offerings and gave up another 15 to 305p. On the other hand, Brocks group attracted a little buying and put on 2 to 30p, along with G. H. Scholes, 8 to the good at 255p. AB Electronic hardened 2 to 188p following the preliminary figures.

Rank Org. dull

Leading Engineers held relatively steady until the late trading when a slightly easier appearance became apparent, Hawker ending 4 cheaper at 222p and GKN 2 lower at 188p. Against the trend, Vickers hardened 2 to 128p awaiting tomorrow's interim results. Elsewhere, most movements were against holders. Satisfactory interim results from Aurora Holdings, 6 lower at 42p, after 40p, were outweighed by the forecast of a poor second half. B. Elliott remained on offer and lost 5 more to 213p, while Bullough closed 7 off at 142p and Brown and Tawse 3 cheaper at 97p. Among the occasional bright spots, United Engineering were supported at 153p, up 4.

In Foods, recently dull Bernard Matthews attracted fresh speculative buying and, in a thin market, put on 20 to 260p. Still benefiting from favourable Press comment, J. N. Nickolls (Vimto) added 5 more to 270p, while Somportex, at 250p, recovered the previous day's fall of 10.

The Iraq/Iran war deterred investment interest in the miscellaneous industrial leaders. Rank Organisation became a prominent dull feature at 148p, down 10, but Bowater attracted small investment demand and finished a few pence better at 174p. Elsewhere, Copydex plummeted 15 to a 1980 low of 23p following the interim dividend omission and half-year deficit, while Stag Furniture fell 6 to 73p, after 72p, on the halved first-half earnings. Further selling in the wake of the disappointing interim figures clipped 11 more from Beatson Clark to 105p, while Bridon remained friendless at 46p, down 3. Supported up to 284p on further consideration of the company's bullion interests, Johnson Matthey reacted on profit-taking to finish a net 5 down at 272p. Cape Industries fell 8 to 208p and Applied Computers dipped 10 to 475p. Speculative buying on bid hopes helped Fobel International put on 5 to 35p, while Camrex gained 5½ to 28½p on recovery hopes. Still responding to Press comment, Aeronautical and General Instruments put on 10 more to 620p, while improvements of around 3 were seen in smaller-priced issues Grovebell, 14p, Hawkins and Tipson, 22p, and Highgate and Job, 30p. Harris and Sheldon were marked down to 34p on the lower interim profits but rallied to finish a penny better on the day at 37p. Following details of the agreed bid from Pentos, dealings in English and Overseas were resumed and the close, at 15½p was a penny up on the suspension level.

Among Motor Components, Lucas touched 192p before closing a net 2 off at 188p, while Flight Refuelling shed 5 to 265p and Supra gave up 4 to 50p; the last-named announces half-yearly results next Monday.

DRG, at 94p, recovered the previous day's fall of 3 on second thoughts about the half-yearly results, while John Waddington firmed 2 to 148p on the disposal of Valentines Group to Hallmark Cards for £3.96m. Selected Newspapers made progress with Oil interests the main consideration, Associated and Daily Mail A adding 4 apiece to 280p and 492p respectively. United Newspapers, on the other hand, shed 10 to 198p on the almost halved half-yearly profits.

Properties improved in places, Land Securities adding a couple of pence to 384p and MEPC hardening a penny to 242p. Secondary issues were featured by a gain of 8 to 248p, after 251p, in Rush and Tompkins following favourable Press comment. Apex picked up 3 to 155p and Laganvale Estates 2 to 40p, but Clarke Nickolls, a good market of late on a broker's circular, eased 4 to 133p. Brixton Estates shed 3 to 137p ahead of tomorrow's interim results. Elsewhere, Dollar Land, dealt under Special Rule, attracted speculative interest and put on 5 to 34p.

Oils active again

The confrontation between Iraq and Iran directed fresh attention to Oil shares which again traded actively with dealings becoming quite hectic in the after-hours' business. A good two-way trade left BP and Shell little altered on the day at 382p and 422p respectively, but buyers eventually gained the upper hand in Tricentrol, 12 to the good at 368p, and Ultramar, a similar amount dearer at 412p. Lasmo finished 10 higher at 745p while, among the more speculative exploration issues, Double Eagle advanced 40 to 650p and Clyde 20 to 545p. Candecca rose 8 to 224p and KCA 7½ to 132p. Pict ended 10 firmer at 380p following the proposed rights issue.

Trusts presented a mixed appearance. Still reflecting the firmness in the Oil sector, Viking Resources gained 7 more to 142p and Atlantic Assets 3 further to 232p. Among Financials, Scottish and Mercantile responded to recent Press mention with a rise of 5 to 170p.

Apart from speculative interest in H. Ingram, up 5 at 26p, little worthy of mention developed in Textiles.

Among Tobaccos, Bats, down 5 at 280p, continued to drift lower awaiting today's interim figures.

Barlow Holdings featured Plantations, rising 8 to 98p, after 100p, on buying ahead of tomorrow's interim results. Still drawing strength from the excellent results, Assam Frontier gained 7 for a three-day rise of 27 at 250p.

At the end of a day of wild swings, prompted by rumour and counter-rumour concerning the Iran-Iraq conflict, South African Gold shares were left showing widespread losses with the Gold Mines index 16.3 lower at 542.6.

The market fell at the outset as heavy profit-taking was reported. Selling became intense following reports that the American hostages in Iran had been released.

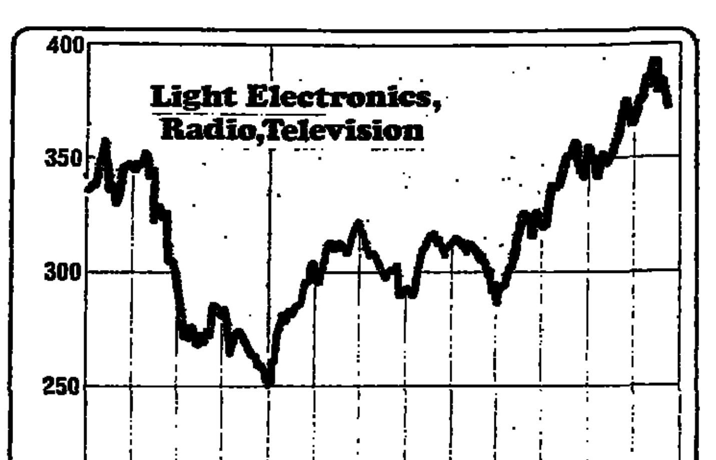
Subsequent denials coupled with news that Iranian oil installations had been severely damaged prompted a sudden about-turn in the sharemarket which rallied sharply in the after-hours' trade on substantial American buying.

Among the heavyweights, West Driefontein were finally £2 lower at £51½, after £50¾, while losses of £1½ were common to "Amgold," £58½, after £55, Western Deep, £34½, after £32, and GFSA, £45, after £44.

Financials moved similarly to Golds. Minorco staged a spectacular rise in the afternoon, soaring 165 to 645p following reported American buying. Anglo American were finally 10 up on balance at a year's high of 880p, after 850p, while Johnnies closed ½ down at £38½, after £38.

The London stocks showed Gold Fields only 5 cheaper at 652p, after 640p, Charter 7 ahead at a high of 272p and RTZ a net 2 harder in ex rights forum at 482p, after 475p; the 9½ per cent Convertible loan stock traded between £15 and £11 premium before colsing at £13 premium.

Platinums closed only marginally easier after falling heavily at the outset. Impala closed unchanged at 570p, after 550p, while Rustenburg were finally 10 off at 360p, after 335p. In Australian Golds, GMK rose 13 to a 1980 high of 600p and Hill 50 Gold put on 5 to 55p.



FINANCIAL TIMES STOCK INDICES

	Sept. 23	Sept. 22	Sept. 19	Sept. 18	Sept. 17	Sept. 16	A year ago
Government Secs.	70.19	70.24	70.79	71.19	70.61	70.47	72.33
Fixed Interest	71.70	71.84	72.09	71.97	71.75	71.71	73.68
Industrial Ord.	485.1	487.3	494.4	497.7	500.8	498.3	469.8
Gold Mines	542.6	558.9	504.8	487.7	497.9	464.7	224.6
Ord. Div. Yield	7.51	7.49	7.40	7.35	7.33	7.37	6.89
Earnings, Yld.% (full)	17.07	17.01	16.87	17.36	17.27	17.35	17.87
P/E Ratio (net) (*)	7.17	7.20	7.27	7.02	7.05	7.02	6.92
Total Bargains	22,444	21,813	19,648	20,602	19,974	21,197	17,339
Equity turnover £m.	—	138.29	116.27	150.16	120.54	94.90	92.12
Equity bargains total	—	17,189	14,680	17,162	16,906	17,474	12,601

10 am 487.3. 11 am 487.6. Noon 487.5. 1 pm 487.3.
2 pm 487.4. 3 pm 486.7.
Latest Index 01-246 8026.
*N.I.=6.57.

Basis 100 Govt. Secs. 15/10/26. Fixed Int. 1928. Industrial Ord. 1/7/35. Gold Mines 12/9/55. SE Activity July-Dec. 1942.

HIGHS AND LOWS

	1980 High	1980 Low	Since Compilat'n High	Since Compilat'n Low
Govt Secs.	72.54 (21/7)	63.85 (7/3)	127.4 (9/1/35)	49.18 (3/1/75)
Fixed Int.	74.08 (24/7)	64.70 (10/3)	150.4 (28/11/47)	50.53 (3/1/75)
Ind.Ord.	508.9 (12/9)	406.9 (3/1)	558.6 (4/5/79)	49.4 (26/6/40)
Gold Mines	558.9 (22/9)	265.5 (16/5)	558.9 (22/9/80)	43.5 (26/10/71)

S.E. ACTIVITY

	Sept. 23	Sept. 22
—Daily		
Gilt Edged	85.7	102.5
Industrials	100.4	114.4
Speculative	140.1	114.8
Totals	77.7	84.7
5-day Avrge.		
Gilt Edged	100.3	104.8
Industrials	112.8	118.4
Speculative	98.0	85.2
Totals	81.4	83.3

NEW HIGHS AND LOWS FOR 1980

The following shares quoted in the Share Information Service yesterday, attained new Highs and Lows for 1980.

NEW HIGHS (80)

AMERICANS (10)
ASA
American Express
Barnes Group
Browning-Ferris
Houston Oil
Ingersoll-Rand
Lionel Corp.
Merrill Lynch
TRW Inc.
Union Carbide

CANADIANS (1)
Hawker Siddeley Can.

BANKS (1)
Kleinwort Benson

BUILDINGS (3)
Armitage Shanks
Barratt Dev.
Crouch Group

STORES (1)
Dixons Photo.

ELECTRICALS (3)
BICC
Motorola
Newmark (Louis)

ENGINEERING (2)
Chemring
United Engineering

FOODS (1)
Nichols (Vimto)

INDUSTRIALS (12)
Aero & General
Baird (Wm.)
Cawoods
Esperanza
Fobel Int
Hutchison Whampoa
Jardine Matheson
Johnson Matthey
Pitney Bowes Loan
Portals
Standard Industrial
Trans. Union

PROPERTY (7)
Allied London
Apex Props.
Chesterfield
Marlborough
Mountview
Raglan Prop.
Rush & Tompkins

SOUTH AFRICANS (1)
S. Af. Breweries

TRUSTS (14)
Atlantic Assets
Australian & Intl.
Crescent Japan
Cumulus
Drayton Far Eastern
Edinburgh Am. Inv.
Eng. & Scot. Inv.
Inv'g in Success
Lancs. & Lond. Inv.
Tor Inv.
Triplevest Cap.
Viking Resources
Wemyss Inv.
Scot & Merc. A

OIL & GAS (6)
Candecca
Century
Double Eagle
Hunting Petroleum
KCA
Ultramar

TEAS (1)
Assam Frontier

MINES (17)
Vlakfontein
Free State Vlot.
Anglo-Am. Coal
Anglo-Am. Gold
Charter Cons.
Middle Wits.
Minorco
Patino NV
Rand London
Sentrust
U.C. Inv.
Falcon
Gold M. Kalgoorlie
N. Broken Hill
Hongkong Tin
Killinghall
Supreme Corp.

NEW LOWS (46)

CANADIANS (1)
Trans Can. Pipe

CHEMICALS (4)
Arrow Chems.
Fisons
Hoechst
Wolstenholme

ELECTRICALS (2)
Dewhurst 'A'
Philips' Lamps

ENGINEERING (12)
Aurora
Birmid Qualcast
Boulton (Wm.)
Brown & Tawse
Bullough
Butterfield Harvey
Deport
Edbro
R C F
Record Ridgway
Tecalemit
Wombwell Foundry

FOODS (1)
Bishop's Stores

INDUSTRIALS (17)
Aero Needles
Anglo-Am. Asphalt
Beatson Clark
Eriden
Caie Inds.
Centreway
Copydex
Doplo Inc
Metal Closures
Neil & Spencer
Rank Org.
Rexmore
Somic
Sparrow (G. W.)
UKO Int.
Watson (R. K.)
Williams (J.)

MOTORS (5)
Plaxton's
Airflow Streamlines
Bluemel Bros.
Supra Group
Glanfield Lawrence

SHOES (1)
Garnar Scotblair

TEXTILES (1)
Courtaulds

TRUSTS (2)
Kakuzi
Kitchen (Rbt. Taylor)

RISES AND FALLS YESTERDAY

	Up	Down	Same
British Funds	36	11	48
Corpns. Dom. and Foreign Bonds	10	5	50
Industrials	148	342	902
Financial and Prop.	87	135	273
Oils	25	10	20
Plantations	4	3	17
Mines	30	71	56
Others	46	52	65
Totals	386	629	1,431

FT-ACTUARIES SHARE INDICES

These Indices are the joint compilation of the Financial Times, the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries

	EQUITY GROUPS & SUB-SECTIONS Figures in parentheses show number of stocks per section	Tues., Sept. 23, 1980 Index No.	Day's Change %	Est. Earnings Yield % (Max.)	Gross Div. Yield % (ACT at 30%)	Est. P/E Ratio (Net)	Mon., Sept. 22 Index No.	Fri., Sept. 19 Index No.	Thurs., Sept. 18 Index No.	Wed., Sept. 17 Index No.	Year ago (approx.) Index No.
1	CAPITAL GOODS (171)	285.79	−0.6	15.43	5.76	7.88	287.53	291.81	296.16	294.89	239.95
2	Building Materials (28)	254.56	−0.3	18.37	6.71	6.46	255.41	259.77	262.86	260.52	234.41
3	Contracting, Construction (27)	427.22	−0.2	21.76	5.71	5.45	428.07	434.48	437.01	433.86	384.96
4	Electricals (17)	876.77	−0.5	11.13	3.04	11.04	881.41	894.43	905.16	897.19	617.63
5	Engineering Contractors (11)	342.13	−1.0	18.10	7.60	7.05	345.47	353.68	356.79	354.26	324.63
6	Mechanical Engineering (72)	177.94	−0.7	16.31	7.50	7.49	179.22	182.59	186.76	186.10	161.73
8	Metals and Metal Forming (16)	162.85	−1.4	17.93	9.96	6.94	165.19	165.10	170.80	173.84	156.77
	CONSUMER GOODS										
11	(DURABLE) (49)	240.02	−0.5	15.46	5.25	8.84	241.21	244.87	250.27	248.33	238.91
12	Lt. Electronics, Radio, TV (14)	370.99	−0.6	12.84	3.73	11.82	373.23	378.25	386.68	381.59	344.36
13	Household Goods (14)	87.64	+0.2	27.45	11.23	4.59	87.48	88.15	88.72	89.32	141.99
14	Motors and Distributors (21)	97.39	−0.2	22.71	9.65	5.07	97.61	99.85	102.27	103.21	110.76
	CONSUMER GOODS										
21	(NON DURABLES) (172)	241.32	−0.3	17.08	6.70	7.08	242.15	245.56	246.76	245.65	237.50
22	Breweries (14)	291.14	−0.6	15.62	6.33	7.48	293.03	295.45	297.09	297.58	287.98
23	Wines and Spirits (5)	316.86	+0.7	19.32	6.43	6.12	314.64	317.29	314.51	327.15	330.00
24	Entertainment, Catering (17)	345.21	−0.6	16.79	6.48	7.33	347.24	350.86	352.85	349.07	318.24
25	Food Manufacturers (22)	221.08	−0.1	18.15	6.86	6.49	221.38	223.96	226.47	224.73	209.89
26	Food Retailing (13)	393.89	−0.2	11.90	3.95	9.97	394.54	399.48	403.65	402.44	306.77
32	Newspapers, Publishing (12)	447.43	+0.1	21.00	7.14	6.37	447.14	448.56	448.82	442.43	421.91
33	Packaging and Paper (15)	128.64	+1.2	27.47	10.13	4.24	127.09	129.52	129.63	128.50	131.04
34	Stores (45)	238.40	−0.3	12.96	5.27	10.08	239.13	242.93	243.77	241.33	236.71
35	Textiles (21)	118.22	−0.5	26.51	13.03	4.60	118.81	120.35	120.80	120.59	152.30
36	Tobaccos (3)	221.50	−1.8	25.91	10.51	4.39	225.64	231.95	232.96	231.45	243.38
37	Toys and Games (5)	23.85	−1.8	9.43	15.99	24.52	24.29	24.67	24.67	24.86	69.17
41	OTHER GROUPS (99)	223.54	−0.5	15.76	6.99	7.60	224.69	227.43	228.82	227.26	206.75
42	Chemicals (16)	308.64	−0.7	17.52	7.88	6.67	310.79	313.29	314.73	312.78	291.32
43	Pharmaceutical Products (7)	237.26	−0.2	10.58	5.84	11.70	237.63	243.21	242.64	240.89	233.38
44	Office Equipment (6)	97.28	−4.0	21.00	8.53	5.56	101.34	103.76	104.97	103.26	122.38
45	Shipping (10)	575.88	−0.3	13.24	6.33	9.22	577.43	580.50	591.54	591.88	444.28
46	Miscellaneous (60)	280.66	—	16.51	6.64	7.37	280.73	283.53	285.97	283.91	242.50
49	INDUSTRIAL GROUP (491)	255.77	−0.5	16.21	6.40	7.51	256.96	260.55	262.94	261.57	238.13
51	Oils (9)	843.56	+0.4	28.69	6.27	3.88	840.08	812.17	806.67	795.05	672.16
59	500 SHARE INDEX	302.32	−0.3	18.92	6.37	6.24	303.16	304.31	306.09	303.92	273.11
61	FINANCIAL GROUP (118)	251.49	—	—	5.20	—	251.55	254.90	256.71	253.96	194.90
62	Banks (6)	250.37	—	40.81	6.72	2.93	250.29	252.60	252.72	251.22	225.45
63	Discount Houses (10)	301.55	+0.5	—	5.88	—	299.96	301.45	300.84	295.68	251.26
64	Hire Purchase (5)	221.29	−0.7	11.21	4.56	12.04	222.95	227.62	231.18	230.08	174.79
65	Insurance (Life) (10)	263.74	−0.6	—	4.99	—	265.20	267.20	269.93	263.18	162.71
66	Insurance (Composite) (9)	178.34	−0.1	—	6.37	—	178.48	182.08	183.32	181.51	129.88
67	Insurance Brokers (9)	344.74	−1.1	13.44	6.71	10.19	348.70	358.68	366.44	353.22	282.45
68	Merchant Banks (12)	147.40	+0.6	—	4.86	—	146.54	148.23	148.14	146.81	101.19
69	Property (45)	464.61	+0.4	3.06	2.57	45.66	462.93	468.96	473.78	471.05	362.05
70	Miscellaneous (12)	152.48	—	15.51	6.08	8.18	152.52	153.49	154.51	153.57	121.48
71	Investment Trusts (109)	281.64	−0.1	—	5.16	—	281.95	282.92	283.85	279.97	216.56
81	Mining Finance (3)	275.66	+0.3	12.81	4.75	9.31	274.69	265.64	262.56	266.42	132.35
91	Overseas Traders (20)	458.13	+0.1	10.98	6.45	10.98	457.90	454.22	455.39	451.86	343.79
99	ALL-SHARE INDEX (750)	294.69	−0.2	—	6.03	—	295.25	296.50	298.09	295.83	251.21

FIXED INTEREST PRICE INDICES

	British Government	Tues., Sept. 23	Day's change %	xd adj. today	xd adj. 1980 to date
1	Under 5 years	106.70	+0.24	—	7.62
2	5-15 years	112.22	+0.01	—	9.33
3	Over 15 years	118.40	+0.03	—	9.56
4	Irredeemables	131.02	−0.35	—	9.02
5	All stocks	112.20	+0.09	—	8.70

FIXED INTEREST YIELDS

British Govt. Av. Gross Red.

			Tues., Sept. 23	Mon., Sept. 22	Year ago (approx.)
1	Low Coupons	5 years	11.70	11.72	10.12
2		15 years	11.70	11.71	10.70
3		25 years	11.70	11.71	11.29
4	Medium Coupons	5 years	13.08	13.15	12.18
5		15 years	13.27	13.25	12.34
6		25 years	13.06	13.06	12.59
7	High Coupons	5 years	13.22	13.30	12.60
8		15 years	13.57	13.56	12.82
9		25 years	13.26	13.28	12.72
10	Irredeemables		11.31	11.26	11.07

		Tues., Sept. 23 Index No.	Tues., Sept. 23 Yield %	Mon. Sept. 22	Friday Sept. 19	Thurs. Sept. 18	Wed. Sept. 17	Tues. Sept. 16	Mon. Sept. 15	Friday Sept. 12	Year ago (approx)
15	20-yr. Red. Deb & Loans (15)	54.08	†13.78	54.02	54.04	53.51	53.47	53.44	53.47	53.38	58.19
16	Investment Trust Prefs. (15)	51.79	13.07	51.79	51.79	51.77	51.68	51.68	51.68	51.33	50.57
17	Coml. and Indl. Prefs. (20)	68.24	13.17	68.24	68.24	67.89	67.92	67.92	67.92	68.07	68.83

† Redemption yield. Highs and lows record base dates and values and constituent changes are published in Saturday issues. A list of the constituents is available from the Publishers, the Financial Times, Bracken House, Cannon Street, London, EC4P 4BY, price 15p, by post 25p.

ACTIVE STOCKS

Stock	Denomination	No. of marks	Closing price (p)	Change on day	1980 high	1980 low
RTZ 9½pcCnv.Uns. Ln. '95-2000	Nil/pd.	13	£13pm	—	£15pm	£11pm
Premier Cons.	5p	10	95	+1	99	36
BP	25p	9	382	+2	412	320
Minorco	BD$1.40	9	645	+165	645	325
Anglo-Amer. Crp.	R0.10	8	880	+10	880	485
Anglo-Amer. Gold	R1	8	£58½	−1½	£60	£30⅛
Cons. Gold Fields	25p	8	652	−5	657	385
Vaal Reefs	R0.50	7	£44	−1	£45	£20¾
West Driefontein	R1	7	£51½	−2½	£53⅝	£26⅝
De Beers Defd.	R0.05	6	518	−2	553	368
Free State Geduld	R0.50	6	£39½	−¾	£40	£19½
LASMO	25p	6	745	+10	830	337
Plessey	50p	6	243	−4	265	108
Rustenburg Plat.	R0.1	6	360	−10	370	184
Ultramar	25p	6	412	+12	412	206

OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
Sept. 22	Oct. 3	Dec. 18	Dec. 29
Oct. 6	Oct. 17	Jan. 8	Jan. 19
Oct. 20	Oct. 31	Jan. 22	Feb. 2

For rate indications see end of Share Information Service

Money was given for the call of Silvermines, Lonrho, European Ferries, Tesco, Helene of London, Ellis and Goldstein, Oil Search, Royco, Coral Leisure, Poseidon, Consolidated Gold Fields, GKN, Tate and Lyle, First National Finance, Plessey, Woodside, Premier Consolidated and Town and City. Lofs were dealt in for the put, while double options were arranged in Premier Consolidated, Consolidated Gold Fields, Charterhall, First National Finance, Dunlop and Laganvale.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Issue Price p‡	Amount Paid Up	Latest Renunc. Date	1980 High	1980 Low	Stock	Closing Price p‡	+ or −	Div. P. or Amount	Times Covered	Gross Yield	P.E. Ratio
§60	F.P.	—	115	91	††Baker Electronics 10p	102	−2	b3.85	2.0	5.4	10.8
¶¶	F.P.	—	285	215	Brint Invs.	285	+5	—	—	—	—
¶¶	F.P.	—	382	338	BP Restricted Trans.	382 xd	+16	17.5	4.7	6.5	3.6
88	F.P.	8/9	91	72	Charterh'se Petrol'm	90	......	b1.08	4.0	1.7	20.8
160	F.P.	—	164	133	††Marinex 10p	150	+2	—	—	—	—
‡‡	F.P.	—	£16⅜	£15¼	Mitel Corp.	£16¼	......	—	—	—	—
67	F.P.	—	145	92	††ORE	145	+10	—	—	—	—
§67	F.P.	—	85	73	††Utd. Electronic 20p	80	......	b1.57	2.2	2.8	22.9

FIXED INTEREST STOCKS

Issue Price £	Amount Paid Up	Latest Renunc. Date	1980 High	1980 Low	Stock	Closing Price £	+ or −
¶¶	F.P.	10/10	114p	107p	Foseco Minsep 8¼% Cnv Red Cum 2nd Pref	114p	......
¶¶	F.P.	10/10	110	102	Do 10% Conv Uns Ln 1995	109	−1
¶	F.P.	30/10	98½	97	Newcastle & Gateshead Water 8¼% RdP	98½	......
‖	Nil	31/10	17pm	9½pm	Queens Moat 10½% Cons Uns Ln '89-91	8½pm	−1½
‖	Nil	—	15pm	11pm	R.T.Z. 9½% Conv. Uns. Ln. '95-2000	13pm	......
‖‖	Nil	—	15¼pm	11½pm	Western Deep 12% Uns Deb. '86-93 Units	11½pm	−4⅛
¶	£10	20/11	12¼	11¾	York Waterworks 9½% Red. Pref. 1983	12	+¼

"RIGHTS" OFFERS

Issue Price p‡	Am'unt Paid up	Latest Renunc. Date ●	Latest Renunc. Date ■	1980 High	1980 Low	Stock	Closing price p‡	+ or −
300	F.P.	22/9	17/10	356	344	Blue Circle	356	......
105	Nil	3/10	7/11	15pm	11pm	British Vita	11pm	−1
A$558	Nil	—	—	158pm	140pm	CRA	152pm	−4
30	Nil	29/9	20/10	11pm	2pm	Laganvale Estates 10p	10pm	+1
240	Nil	6/10	14/11	125pm	120pm	M. L. Hldgs.	120pm	......
120	F.P.	18/8	26/9	164	144	McKay Secs.	162	−2
220	F.P.	5/9	14/11	300	286	Mercantile House	290	......
14	F.P.	5/9	6/10	21	16	Moorgate Mercantile	20	......
c.$46	Nil	—	—	36pm	35pm	Royal Bank of Canada	35pm	−1
13	F.P.	19/9	10/10	16	15	Spence rGears	15	......

Renunciation date usually last day for dealing free of stamp duty. *b* Figures based on prospectus estimate. *g* Assumed dividend and yield. *u* Forecast dividend: cover based on previous year's earnings. F Dividend and yield based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1979. Q Gross. T Figures assumed. ‡ Cover allows for conversion of shares not now ranking for dividend or ranking only for restricted dividends. § Placing price to public. p‡ Pence unless otherwise indicated. ¶ Issued by tender. ‖ Offered to holders of ordinary shares as a "rights." ** Issued by way of capitalisation. §§ Reintroduced. ¶¶ Issued in connection with reorganisation, merger or takeover. ‖‖ Introduction. □ Issued to former preference holders. ■ Allotment letters (or fully-paid). ● Provisional or partly-paid allotment letters. ★ Warrants. †† Unlisted security. † Dealings under special rule. ‡‡ London listing.

UNIT TRUST SERVICE

OFFSHORE & OVERSEAS—contd.

Gartmore Invest. Ltd. Ldn. Agts.
2, St. Mary Axe, London, EC3. 01-283 3531
Gartmore Fund Managers (C.I.) Ltd. (a)(h)
41, Broad St., St. Helier, Jersey. 0534-73741
Gilt Fund (Jersey) 96.0 101.0 ..... 12.65
Gartmore Fund Managers (Far East) Ltd. (a)(h)
1503 Hutchison Hse., 10 Harcourt Rd., H. Kong
Australian Tst. US$16.138 17.386 +0.265 —
HK & Pac. U. Tst. HK$5.924 6.393 ..... 2.60
Japan Fd. US$17.865 19.214 +0.115 0.60
N. American Tst. US$21.573 23.214 ..... 1.00
Intl. Bond Fund US$12.114 12.761 ..... 9.30
Gartmore Fund Managers (IoM) (a)
P.O. Box 32, Douglas, IoM. 0624 23911
Gartmore Intl. Inc. 21.3 22.7 ..... 13.80
Gartmore Intl. Grth. 114.3 121.6 ..... 7.00

Guinness Mahon Fd. Mgrs. (Guernsey)
PO Box 188, St. Peter Port, Guernsey. 0481 23506.
Intl. Fund $20.66 21.39 ..... —
Price at August 28. Next dealing Sept. 25.

Hambro Pacific Fund Mgmt. Ltd.
2110, Connaught Centre, Hong Kong
Far East Sept. 17 HK$20.08 21.17 ..... —
Japan Fund Sept. 19 US$8.98 9.44 ..... —

Hambros Fd. Mgrs. (C.I.) Ltd.
P.O. Box 86, Guernsey. 0481-26521
Capital Reserve Fd. £12.13 12.15 +0.03 0.23
C.I. Fund 194.4 207.1 +1.1 3.75
Special Sits. Fund 62.2 64.2 −1.5 2.66
Intnl. Bond US$104.86 108.12 −0.79 8.58
Int. Equity US$17.12 17.65 +0.28 0.85
Int. Svgs. 'A' $US 1.19 1.23 −0.01 —
Int. Svgs. 'B' 1.76 1.81 +0.03 —
Prices on Sept. 24. Next dealing Oct. 1.
†Excludes initial charge on small orders.

Henderson Admin. (Guernsey) Ltd.
7 New St., St. Peter Port, Guernsey 0481 26541/2
American O/S (USc) 122.9 129.3 +2.0 —

Henderson Baring Group
801, Gloucester, 11, Pedder, Hong Kong
Japan Fd. Sept. 17 US$22.71 23.69 ..... —
Japan Tech. Sept. 22 US$12.809 +0.008 —
Malay Singpr. Sept. 16 14.113 ..... —
Pacific Fd. Sept. 17 US$15.568 ..... —
Bond Fd. Sept. 18 US$10.955 ..... 9.00
PO Box 71, 7 New St., Peter Port, Guernsey, CI.
Gilt Fd.† £10.15 10.25 ..... 13.02
*Inclusive of Preliminary charge. †Weekly dealings.

Hill-Samuel & Co. (Guernsey) Ltd.
8 LeFebvre St., St. Peter Port, Guernsey, C.I.
Guernsey Tst. 191.1 204.4 +0.1 3.32

Hill Samuel Invest. Mgmt. Intnl.
P.O. Box 63, Jersey. 0534 27381.
HS Channel Is. Fd. 145.3 155.6 ..... 4.00
H.S. Fixed Int. Fd. 95.8 99.0 ..... 12.00
Box 2622, Berne, Switzerland. Telex 33425.
H.S. Overseas Fd. US$24.47 25.45 +0.14 —
CSF Fd. (Acc.) SF17.85 18.23 +0.05 —
Crossbow Fd. (Acc.) SF4.96 5.07 +0.04 —
ITF Fd. (Acc.) US$13.17 13.43 +0.11 —

N.V. Interbeheer
P.O. Box 526, Delft, Holland
Esmeralda (Iss. Price) DF59.93 +0.40 1.67

International Pacific Inv. Mgmt. Ltd.
P.O. Box R237, 56, Pitt St., Sydney, Aust.
Javelin Equity Tst. A$3.61 3.72 ..... 3.80

Jardine Fleming & Co. Ltd.
46th Floor, Connaught Centre, Hong Kong
Jardine Estn. Tst. HK$630.35 ..... 1.5
Jardine Jpn. Fd. Y1802 ..... 0.9
Jardine S.E.A. US$36.44 ..... 1.30
Jardine Flem. Int. HK$23.70 ..... 0.4
Intl. Pac. Secs. (Inc.) HK$19.40 ..... 1.00
Do. (Accum.) HK$20.12 ..... —
J.F. Japan Small. Co. Y18,340 ..... —
J.F. Cur. & Bd. Fd. (Inc.) US$10.68 ..... 7.40
Do. (Accum.) US$11.50 ..... —
NAV September 15.
London Agents: Robt. Fleming & Co. Tel: 01-638 5858

Leopold Joseph & Sons (Guernsey)
Hirzel Ct., St. Peter Port, Guernsey. 0481-26648.
L.J. Sterling Fund £12.07 12.08 ..... —

Kemp-Gee Management, Jersey Ltd.
1 Charing Cross, St. Helier, Jersey 0534 73741
Capital Fund 153.0 157.7 ..... —
Income Fund 57.8 59.6 ..... 11.60
Gilt Bond £1,015 1,069 ..... —

Keyser Ullmann Ltd.
25, Milk Street, EC2V 8JE. 01-606 7070
Fonselex SF167.4 167.05 ..... 2.10
Bondselex Fr113.45 119.40 ..... —
Central Assets £176.06 176.11 +0.01 —

King & Shaxson Mngrs.
1, Charing Cross, St. Helier, Jersey. (0534) 73741
Valley Hse., St. Peter Port, Gnsy. (0481) 24706
1 Thomas Street, Douglas, I.O.M. (0624) 4856
Gilt Fund (Jersey) £8.65 8.71 −0.04 12.50
Gilt Trust (I.o.M.) 97.4 99.8 ..... 12.50
Gilt Fnd. Guernsey 9.01 9.06 ..... 12.50
Intl. Govt. Secs. Tst.
First Sterling £16.84 17.00 −0.03 —
First Intl. 229.33 230.54 +0.26 —

Kleinwort Benson Limited
20, Fenchurch St., EC3. 01-623 8000
Eurinvest LF1123 −4 5.00
Guernsey Inc. 85.2 90.4 ..... 5.42
Do. Accum. 112.6 119.4 ..... 5.42
K.B. Eurobond Fd £9.17 9.27 ..... 9.04
K.B. Far East Fd. US$21.79 ..... 1.58
K.B. Gilt Fund £10.39 10.47 ..... 12.02
K.B. Int. Bd. Fd. Inc. US$98.41 ..... 9.36
K.B. Int. Bd. Fd. Acc. US$113.21 ..... 9.36
K.B. Intl. Fund US$15.90 ..... 2.21
K.B. Japan Fund US$36.15 +0.05 0.69
K.B. Sterl. Asset Fd. £11.60 11.61 +0.05 —
K.B. U.S. Gwth. Fd. US$18.78 ..... 1.06
Signet Bermuda US$7.29 ..... 2.00

Lazard Brothers & Co. (Jersey) Ltd.
P.O. Box 108, St. Helier, Jersey, C.I. 0534 37361
L.B. Int. Capital US$11.85 12.62 ..... 0.10

Lloyds Bk. (C.I.) U/T Mgrs.
P.O. Box 195, St. Helier, Jersey. 0534 27561
Lloyds Tst. O'seas 64.9 69.0 ..... 1.51
Next dealing Sept. 25.
Lloyds Trust Gilt 9.97 9.98 ..... 12.40
Next dealing Sept. 24

Lloyds Bank International, Geneva
P.O. Box 438, 1211 Geneve 11 (Switzerland)
Lloyds Int. Growth SF578.00 609.00 +18 0.60
Lloyds Int. Income SF289.50 300.50 +1.50 6.00

M & G Group
Three Quays, Tower Hill EC3R 6BQ. 01-626 4588
Atlantic Sept. 23 US$7.40 7.63 +0.42 —
Aust. Ex. Sept. 17 US$9.10 9.66 ..... —
Gold Ex. Inc. Sept. 17 US$64.29 67.68 ..... 4.35
Gold Ex. Acc. US$81.80 85.27 ..... 4.35
Island 157.3 167.4 +0.2 3.95
(Accum Units) 237.2 252.4 +0.2 3.95

Management International Ltd.
Bk. of Bermuda Bldg., Bermuda. 809-295-4000
Bda. Intl. Bd. Fd. Cap. US$11.33 ..... —
Bda. Intl. Bd. Fd. Inc. US$11.06 ..... 12.00
Prices Sept. 19. Next dealing Sept. 29.

Midland Bank Tst. Corp. (Jersey) Ltd.
28-34, Hill St., St. Helier, Jersey. 0534 36281
Midland Drayton Gilt 101.2 101.7 −0.8 11.80

Samuel Montagu Ldn. Agents
114, Old Broad St., EC2. 01-588 6464
Apollo Fd. Sept. 10 SF55.11 59.80 ..... 2.95
Japfest. Sept. 15 HK$19.99 21.63 ..... 0.93
117 Group Aug. 29 US$14.49 15.99 ..... 2.28
117 Jersey Sept. 3 £6.50 7.21 ..... 1.75
117 Jsey O's Sept. 10 £5.93 6.25 ..... 3.05

Murray, Johnstone (Inv. Adviser)
163, Hope St., Glasgow, C2. 041-221 5521
Hope St. Fd. Sept. 15 US$42.07 ..... —
Murray Fund Sept. 15 US$20.37 ..... —
Pacific Fd. Aug. 31 US$4.75 ..... —

Nat. Westminster Jersey Fd. Mgrs. Ltd.
45 La Motte St., St. Helier, Jersey 0534 36241
High Income Fund 48.5 51.0 ..... 11.76
Equity Fund 58.6 61.0 ..... 3.38
International Bond* 48.6 50.0 ..... —
*Sub. day every Thurs.

Negit S.A.
10a Boulevard Royal, Luxembourg
NAV Sept. 12 US$13.04 ..... —

N.E.L. International Ltd.
P.O. Box 119, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, C.I.
Sterling Deposit 49.1 51.7 ..... —
Sterling Fixed Interest 48.8 51.3 ..... —
Sterling Managed 47.0 51.2 ..... —
Intl. Fixed Interest 47.2 51.3 ..... —
Intnl. Managed 48.5 52.4 ..... —

Pacific Basin Fund
10a Boulevard Royal, Luxembourg.
NAV US$19.15 +0.16 —

Phoenix International
PO Box 77, St. Peter Port, Guern. 0481 26741
Inter-Dollar Fund US$2.98 3.13 ..... —
Far East Fund US$2.15 2.32 ..... —
Intl. Currency Fund US$1.67 1.80 ..... —
Dollar Fxd. Int. Fund US$2.10 2.27 ..... —
Ster. Exempt Gilt Fd. £1.40 1.51 ..... —

Providence Capitol Life Ass. (C.I.)
PO Box 121, St Peter Port, Guernsey 0481 26726/9
Sterling Bond Fd. 49.1 51.6 ..... —
Sterling Equity Fd. 69.0 72.4 ..... —
Intnl. Bond Fd. US$1.00 1.05 ..... —
Intnl. Equity Fd. US$0.96 1.00 ..... —
Prices at Sept. 17. Next dealing Sept. 24.

Quest Fund Mngmnt. (Jersey) Ltd.
PO Box 194, St. Helier, Jersey. 0534 27441
Quest Stlg. Fxd. Int. £0.800 0.847xd 14.76
Quest Intl. Secs. US$1.127 1.212xd 2.97
Quest Intl. Bd. US$0.849 0.899xd 11.12
Prices on Sept. 17. Next dealing Sept. 24.

RBC Investment Managers Limited
PO Box 48, St. Peter Port, Guernsey. 0481-23021.
Intl. Income Fd. US$10.14 10.72 ..... —

Richmond Life Ass. Ltd.
48, Athol Street, Douglas, I.O.M. 0624 23914
(x)The Silver Trust 381.7 390.8 +15.4 —
Do. Diamond Bd. 142.7 150.2 ..... —
Irish Gilt Bond 128.1 136.9 −1.8 12.41
Sterling Deposit Bd. 119.14 125.42 ..... 15.90
Alias Gilt & Com. Fd. 98.7 103.8 ..... —
UK Gilt Fund 111.5 117.3 +0.1 —

Rothschild Asset Management (C.I.)
P.O. Box 58, St. Julians Ct., Guernsey. 0481 26331
O.C. America Fd.† US$2.44 2.59 +0.19 0.68
OCSm. Co.*** 97.1 102.9 ..... 3.15
O.C. Commodity* 103.7 110.9 ..... 4.71
O.C. Dir.Comdty.† US$52.23 55.56 +5.03 1.33
O.C. Hong Kg. Fd.† HK$32.29 34.22 +3.08 —
O.C. Sterling Fd.** £12.474 +0.005 —
**O.C. International Reserves Limited
Bel.Francs (Fin.) BF609.849 Italian Lira 20.582
Canadian $ 25.346 Singapore $ 50.610
D-Mark DM40.480 £ Sterling 10.236
Dutch Guilder DFl40.540 Swiss Francs 40.267
French Francs FF101.58 U.S.$ 20.315
*Prices on Sept. 12. Next dealing Sept. 30.
†Prices on Sept. 8. Next dealing Sept. 22.
**Daily dealings. ***Sept. 30.

Rothschild Asset Mgt. (Bermuda)
P.O. Box 664, Bk. of Bermuda Bld., Bermuda
Reserve Assets Fd. US$9.77 9.98 ..... —
Prices on Sept. 16. Next dealing Oct. 23.

Save & Prosper International
Dealing to
P.O. Box 73, St. Helier, Jersey 0534 73933
Fixed Interest Funds
Deutschmark Bd.**‡ DM9.37 9.92xd 5.54
Dlr. Fxd. Int.***‡ US$8.32 8.83 ..... 8.49
St. Fixed****‡ 111.2 117.4 ..... 11.93
Yen Bond Y987 1,045 ..... 4.78
Equity Funds
Channel Capital‡ 84.6 89.2 −1.4 2.95
Internatl. Gr.**‡ US$12.08 13.06 +0.20 —
Far Eastern**‡ [illegible] 15.52 ..... —
North American**‡ US$6.87 7.43 ..... —
Sepro***‡ 19.16 20.94 ..... —
Trust Channel Isl.‡ 79.2 83.5 −0.8 5.88
Commodity Funds
Commodity*****‡ 169.7 178.9 ..... —
Deposit Funds
St. Deposit****‡ 126.8 126.9xd 0.20
*Prices on Sept. 22. **Sept. 17. ***Sept. 19. ****Sept. 18. ‡Weekly dealings. ☆Daily dealings.

Schroder Life Group
Enterprise House, Portsmouth. 0705 27733
International Funds
£Equity 95.9 102.0 +2.2 —
$Equity US$2.182 2.321 +0.05 —
£Fixed Interest 174.9 186.0 −0.1 —
$Fixed Interest US$1.239 1.315 −0.002 —
£Managed 133.9 142.4 +1.4 —
$Managed US$1.721 1.830 +0.008 —

Shroder Mngt. Services (Jersey) Ltd.
P.O. Box 195, St. Helier, Jersey. 0534 27561
Sterling Money Fd. £10 — ..... —

J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Ltd.
120, Cheapside, EC2. 01-588 4000
Am. Inv. Tr. Sept. 18 US$18.10 ..... 1.93
Asian Fd. Sept. 15 US$24.02 24.88 ..... 2.51
Ch'side $ Sept. 22 US$20.13 — +0.13 1.99
Darling Fd. Sept. 12 A$3.60 3.83 ..... 4.30
Japan Fund Sept. 18 US$8.54 9.18 ..... 1.83
Trafalgar Fd. Aug. 31 US$235.01 ..... —

Sentry Assurance International Ltd.
P.O. Box 1776, Hamilton 5, Bermuda.
Managed Fund US$4.9338 5.4052 ..... —

Singer & Friedlander Ldn. Agents.
20, Cannon St., EC4. 01-248 9646
Dekafonds DM24.00 25.26 ..... 6.33
Tokyo Trust Sept. 1 US$34.75 ..... 2.60

Standard Chartered Intl. Bd. Fd.
37 rue Notre-Dame, Luxembourg.
NAV Sept. 15 US$10.33 −0.18 —

Stronghold Management Limited
P.O. Box 315, St. Helier, Jersey. 0534-71460
Commodity Trust 157.32 165.60 ..... —

Surinvest (Jersey) Ltd. (x)
Queens Hse., Don Rd., St. Helier, Jsy. 0534 27349
American Ind.Tst. £5.12 5.24 +0.04 —
Copper Trust £13.32 £13.64 +0.23 —
Jap. Index Tst. £6.50 6.65 −0.13 —

Surinvest Trust Managers Ltd.
48, Athol Street, Douglas, Isle of Man. 0624 23914
The Coin Trust 108.7 114.4 ..... —

TSB Unit Trust Managers (C.I.) Ltd.
10, Wharf St., St. Helier, Jersey (CI). 0534 73494
TSB Jersey Fund 54.4 57.3 −0.4 5.02
TSB Guernsey Fund 54.4 57.3 −0.4 5.02
Prices on Sept. 24. Next sub. day Oct. 1

TSB Gilt Fund Managers (C.I.) Ltd.
10 Wharf St., St. Helier, Jersey (CI). 0534 73494
TSB Gilt Fund 96.0 99.0 −3.0 14.14
TSB Gilt Fd. (Jsy.) 96.0 99.0 −3.0 14.14
Prices on Sept. 24. Next sub. day Oct. 1

Tokyo Pacific Holdings N.V.
Intimis Management Co. N.V., Curacao.
NAV per share Sept. 16. US$87.68.

Tokyo Pacific Hldgs. (Seaboard) N.V.
Intimis Management Co. N.V., Curacao.
NAV per share Sept. 16. US$63.88.

Tyndall Group
P.O. Box 1256 Hamilton 5, Bermuda, 2-2760
Overseas Sept. 17 US$1.47 1.55 ..... 6.00
(Accum. Units) US$2.61 2.76 ..... —
2 New St., St. Helier, Jersey. 0534 37331/3
TOFSL Sept. 18 £9.60 10.35 ..... 2.42
(Accum. Shares) £16.35 17.55 ..... —
American Sept. 18 117.6 125.8 ..... 2.58
(Accum. shares) 126.0 134.8 ..... —
Far Eastern Sept. 18 112.8 121.0 ..... 1.86
(Accum. shares) 118.2 126.8 ..... —
Jersy Fund Sept. 17 140.0 150.6 ..... 7.75
(Non-J. Acc. Uts.) 235.2 253.0 ..... —
Gilt Fund Sept. 17 101.6 103.6xd 11.54
(Accum. Shares) 170.8 174.0 ..... —
Victory House, Douglas, Isle of Man. 0624 24111.
High Inc. Gilt Sept. 17 109.8 112.0 ..... 13.48
(Accum Shares) 115.2 117.4 ..... —

Unilife Assurance (Overseas) Ltd.
P.O. Box 1388, Hamilton 5-31, Bermuda
Internl. Mngd. Fd. US$1.08 ..... —

Union-Investment-Gesellschaft mbH
Postfach 16767, D 6000 Frankfurt 16.
Unifonds DM17.09 18.00 −0.10 —
Unirak DM47.68 50.10 ..... —
Urirenta DM37.21 38.40 +0.10 —

Utd. Intnl. Mngmnt (C.I.) Ltd.
14, Mulcaster Street, St. Helier, Jersey
U.I.B. Fund US$107.52 109.14 ..... 10.30

van Cutsem & Associates Ltd.
42, Essex Street, London, WC2 01-353 6845
PanAmer. O's. Fd. US$122.90 ..... —

S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.
30, Gresham Street, EC2. 01-600 4555
Energy Intl. Sept. 18 US$38.06 ..... —
Gresh. St. $ Aug. 31 US$9.41 ..... —
Merc. Eurbd. Sept. 17 US$11.07 11.79 ..... 0.7520
Mrc. My. Sept. 22 £12.91 12.92 ..... —

Warburg Invest. Mngt. Jrsy. Ltd.
7 Library Place, St. Helier, Jsy. CI 0534 37217
CMT Ltd. Aug. 28 £13.99 14.35 ..... 2.72
Metals Tst. Sept. 18 £13.07 13.39 ..... 35.93
SMT Ltd. Sept. 4 £12.20 12.52 ..... —
TMT Ltd. Sept. 11 £12.56 12.89 ..... 4.81

Wardley Investment Services Ltd.,
4th Floor, Hutchison House, Hong Kong
Wardley Trust HK$25.84 27.40 +1.10 —
Wardley Nikko As. Fd. US$36.05 37.93 +1.97 —
Wardley Bond Trust US$10.00 10.20 ..... —
Wardley Japan Trust US$13.27 13.57 +0.38 —

World Wide Growth Managementφ
10a, Boulevard Royal, Luxembourg
Worldwide Gth Fd. US$33.19 +0.40 —

Wren Commodity Trust
10, St. George's St., Douglas IoM 0624 25015
Wren Commod. Tst. 41.2 42.0 ..... —

NOTES

Prices are in pence unless otherwise indicated. Yields % (shown in last column) allow for all buying expenses. a Offered prices include all expenses. b Today's prices. c Yield based on offer price. d Estimated. g Today's opening price. h Distribution free of UK taxes. p Periodic premium insurance plans. s Single premium insurance. x Offered price includes all expenses except agent's commission. y Offered price includes all expenses if bought through managers. Z Previous day's price. φ Net of tax on realised capital gains unless indicated by ◆. ¶ Guernsey gross. # Suspended. ◆ Yield before Jersey tax. † Ex-subdivision. ‡‡ Only available to charitable bodies.

FT UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

AUTHORISED UNIT TRUSTS

Abbey Unit Tst. Mngrs. (a)
72-80, Gatehouse Rd., Aylesbury 0296 5941

Abbey Amer. Gth. Tst.	53.4	57.4	+0.3	2.53
Abbey Capital	43.2	46.7	-0.1	5.25
Abbey General	54.3	58.7	.....	4.35
Abbey Gilt & F.I. Tst.	112.7	118.6	+0.3	11.53
Abbey Income	34.5	37.3	-0.3	9.28
Abbey W'Wide Bd Tst.	91.9	97.3	-0.8	6.89
Abbey Inv. Tst. Fnd.	47.7	51.6xd	-0.2	4.92
Equitas Prog. Tst.	82.8	89.5	+0.2	4.82

Allen Harvey & Ross Unit Tst. Mngrs.
45, Cornhill, London EC3V 3PB. 01-623 6314.

AHR Gilt Trust	91.6	96.5	.....	12.68

Allied Hambro Ltd. (a)(g)
Hambro Hse., Hutton, Brentwood, Essex.
01-588 2851 or Brentwood (0277) 211459

Balanced Funds				
Allied 1st.	86.9	93.0xd	-0.1	5.97
Brit. Inds. Fund	77.6	83.0	-0.5	6.27
Growth & Income	48.8	52.2	-0.1	5.33
Elect. & Ind. Dev.	43.4	46.4	-0.3	5.28
Allied Capital	93.2	99.7	-0.3	4.46
Hambro Fund	133.7	149.1	-0.4	6.07
Hambro Acc. Fund	171.3	183.3	-0.3	4.91
Income Funds				
High Yield Fd.	64.9	69.0xd	-0.5	10.00
High Income	76.7	82.1xd	-0.6	7.73
A. H. Eq. Inc.	45.0	48.2	-0.3	7.53
Govt. Secs.	26.3	27.8	+0.1	11.78
International Funds				
International	32.9	35.2	-0.1	3.07
Pacific Fund	55.5	59.4	-0.8	2.07
Secs. Of America	67.0	71.7	-0.1	2.51
Specialist Funds				
Smaller Co.'s Fd.	52.0	55.6	-0.4	4.59
2nd Smlr. Co's Fd.	60.9	65.2xd	+0.3	4.60
Recovery Sits.	128.7	137.7	-0.9	6.06
Met. Min. & C'dty.	73.2	78.3	+0.8	3.77
Overseas Earnings	67.9	72.7	.....	5.30
Exempt Funds♦				
Income Exempt	—	50.0	.....	8.50
Far East Exempt	62.4	63.8	-0.7	2.35
Smaller Co. Exempt	81.6	85.7	-0.3	4.67
U.S.A. Exempt	115.5	120.1xd	+0.2	2.91

Anderson Unit Trust Managers Ltd.
158, Fenchurch St., EC3M 6AA. 623 9231

Anderson U.T.	66.6	71.2xd	-1.1	4.75

Ansbacher Unit Mgmt. Co. Ltd.
1, Noble St., EC2V 7JA. 01-623 6376

Inc. Monthly Fund	140.0	150.0xd	.....	12.50

Arbuthnot Securities Ltd. (a)(c)
37, Queen St., London, EC4R 1BY. 01-236 5281

Capital††	32.1	34.6	.....	—
Commodity***	99.6	107.5	+1.7	2.48
(Accumulation)	154.0	166.3	+2.7	2.48
(10% Withdrawal)	77.9	84.1	+1.4	2.48
Eastern & Internatl.†	34.6	37.4	.....	1.00
(6% Withdrawal)	24.3	26.2	.....	1.00
Extra Income	97.3	105.8	-0.5	10.22
(Accumulation)	110.8	120.5	-0.6	10.22
Finance & Property*	24.7	26.6xd	+0.1	3.92
Foreign††	123.9	134.7	+0.5	1.00
Giants	42.5	45.9	-0.3	3.17
(Accumulation)	54.5	58.8	-0.3	3.17
Gilt & Fixed	44.2	46.3	+0.1	12.82
(Accumulation)	46.4	48.6	+0.2	12.82
Growth	41.9	45.2	.....	3.09
(Accumulation)	54.0	58.3	.....	3.09
High Income	35.8	38.6	-0.2	9.27
(Accumulation)	58.2	62.8	-0.4	9.27
(8½% Withdrawal)	47.4	51.1	-0.5	9.27
High Yield	42.3	45.6xd	+0.1	10.63
(Accumulation)	72.5	78.3	.....	10.63
North American††	33.7	36.3	.....	1.00
Preference	22.7	24.7	.....	13.31
(Accumulation)	42.6	46.4	.....	13.32
Smaller Companies*	30.1	32.5	-0.1	4.45

Dealings: †Tues. *Wed. ††Thurs. ***Friday.

Archway Unit Tst. Mgs. Ltd.♥ (a)(c)
317, High Holborn, WC1V 7NL. 01-831 6233

Archway Fund	116.6	125.4	.....	5.32

Prices at Sept. 18. Next sub. day Sept. 25.

Barclays Unicorn Ltd.♥ (a)(c)(g)
Unicorn Ho. 252, Romford Rd., E7. 01-534 5544

Unicorn America	34.6	37.2	+0.2	1.84
Do. Aust. Acc.	140.5	151.0	+0.3	1.25
Do. Aust. Inc.	107.6	115.6	+0.2	1.25
Do. Capital	86.4	92.9xd	.....	5.02
Do. Exempt Tst.	133.3	138.8	-0.8	6.61
Do. Extra Income	30.7	33.1	-0.2	9.16
Do. Financial	106.6	114.6	+0.9	3.70
Do. 500	88.3	94.9xd	-0.9	6.87
Do. General	41.5	44.6	-0.2	5.58
Do. Growth Acc.	63.5	68.3	.....	4.43
Do. Income Trust	96.8	104.6	-1.1	7.48
Do. Prf. A'ns. Tst.	243.7	259.2	-0.7	4.45
Do. Recovery	55.3	59.4	.....	5.97
Do. Trustee Fund	145.7	156.6	-1.2	5.53
Do. W'ldwide Tst.	56.5	60.7	+0.3	3.91
B'tst. In. Fd. Inc.	77.0	80.2	-0.3	5.71
Do. Accum.	95.9	99.8	-0.5	5.71

Baring Brothers & Co., Ltd.♥ (a)(x)
88, Leadenhall St., EC3. 01-588 2830

Stratton Trust	246.6	256.2xd	+1.8	4.46
Do. Accum.	328.4	342.2xd	+2.2	4.46

Next sub. day Oct. 7

Bishopsgate Progressive Mgmt. Co.♥
9, Bishopsgate, EC2. 01-588 6280

B'gate. Pr. **Sept. 23	261.4	276.7	+7.8	2.80
Acc. Units **Sept. 23	327.3	346.4	+9.7	2.00
B'gate. Int. Sept 16	251.1	265.8	.....	2.00
(Accum.) *Sept. 16	288.3	305.1	.....	2.00

Next sub. day *Sept. 30, **Oct. 7.

Bridge Fund Managers (a)(c)
Regis Hse., King William St., EC4. 01-623 4951

Amer. Gen.	34.4	36.6	.....	1.57
Income*	58.6	63.7	+0.2	8.27
Capital Inc.†	56.0	59.6	.....	2.52
Do. Acc.†	65.1	69.3	.....	2.52
Exempt†	156.0	167.0	.....	6.59
Internatl. Inc.†	20.4	21.8	.....	3.51
Do. Acc.†	24.0	25.6	.....	3.51

Dealing *Tues., †Wed. ‡Thurs. Prices Sept. 16/17/18

Britannia/Schlesinger
Britannia Trust Management (a) (c) (g)
604, Salisbury Hse., 4th Flr., Finsbury Circus,
London EC2M 5QL. 01-638 0478/0479

Assets	92.2	99.1	+0.3	5.02
Capital Acc.	79.4	85.4	+0.1	3.92
Comm & Ind	65.2	70.1	+0.1	4.77
Commodity	165.2	178.3	+1.7	2.88
Domestic	49.6	53.3	.....	4.37
Exempt	127.7	134.5	-2.1	7.92
Extra Income	35.2	37.8xd	-0.2	11.68
Far East	32.0	34.4xd	-0.2	1.13
Financial Secs.	95.9	103.1	-0.4	4.55
Gilt	23.7	24.9	.....	12.05
Gold & General	260.0	279.4	+3.5	4.68
Growth	116.8	125.6	+1.7	3.80
Inc. & Growth	79.3	85.3	-0.6	7.80
Int'l Growth	82.2	88.4	+0.2	2.46
Minerals	170.6	179.0xd	+1.7	4.22
Nat. High Income	75.3	81.0xd	-0.7	10.35
Special Situations	40.7	43.7	+0.1	4.13
North American	37.2	40.0	+0.1	1.44
Professional	867.3	894.1	+2.6	4.17
Property Shares	25.0	26.8xd	-0.3	2.14
Shield	65.9	70.9xd	+0.9	3.84
Status Change	38.0	42.8xd	-0.9	4.37
Invest. Tst. Shares	62.2	66.9	+0.3	3.72
Univ Energy	82.7	88.9	+1.0	1.19

Schlesinger Trust Mngrs. Ltd. (a)(c)(g)
140, South Street, Dorking. (0306)86441

Am. Exempt (z)	27.7	29.2	+0.3	1.72
Am. Growth (z)	35.8	38.5	+0.2	1.93
Am. Smaller Cos (z)	48.0	51.9	.....	0.45
Exempt High Yield	27.6	29.0	-0.1	9.20
Exempt Mkt. Ldrs.	34.2	36.0	-0.1	4.68
Extra Inc. Tst.	23.8	25.9	-0.1	11.47
Britannia Gilt	23.7	24.9	.....	12.05
Income Dist.	42.3	45.7xd	-0.2	11.14
Inc. 10% Wdrwl.	31.0	33.5xd	-0.2	—
Inv. Tst. Units	32.4	35.2	-0.1	5.35
Intl. Growth	67.4	72.5	+0.7	2.23
Market Leaders	36.7	39.7	.....	5.64
'Nil Yield'	36.3	39.0	+0.4	—
Pref. & Gilt Trust	19.9	21.5xd	.....	13.73
Property Shares	47.2	51.3	-0.1	2.08
Special Sit. Tst.	52.9	57.5	+0.2	1.29
UK Grth. Accum.	27.1	29.3	-0.3	4.22
UK Grth. Dist.	22.3	24.1	-0.2	4.22

The British Life Office Ltd♥ (a)
Reliance Hse., Tunbridge Wells, Kt. 0892 22271

BL British Life	64.8	68.6	+0.1	5.72
BL Balanced*	60.3	64.5	-0.3	6.07
BL Dividend*	38.0	40.6	-0.1	9.72

Prices Sept. 17. Next dealing Sept. 24.

Brown Shipley & Co. Ltd.♥(a)(g)
Harlands Hse, Haywards H'th, Sx. 0444-58144

B.S. Units Sept. 23	284.8	301.9	.....	5.47
(Do. Accum.) Spt. 23	391.6	415.1	.....	—
Financial	54.4	57.7xd	-0.1	3.99
Growth Accum.	71.7	76.0	-0.4	5.16
Growth Income	53.0	56.2	-0.2	5.16
High Income	26.2	28.5xd	-0.2	11.25
I.T.U.	25.9	27.5xd	-0.1	4.99
Income	26.2	27.8	.....	7.58
Index	30.0	32.0	-0.2	4.94
North American	26.4	28.1	.....	2.46
Performance	68.1	72.2	-0.2	4.01
Recovery	21.1	22.4	-0.1	8.12
Exempt	81.7	85.0	-0.1	5.47

Canada Life Unit Trst. Mngrs. Ltd.♥
2-6 High St., Potters Bar, Herts. P. Bar 51122

Can. Gen Dist.	47.2	49.7	+0.2	4.79
Do. Gen. Accum	63.1	66.4	+0.2	4.79
Do. Income Dist.	35.0	36.8	-0.1	8.71
Do. Inc. Accum.	51.8	54.6	.....	8.71

Capel (James) Mngt. Ltd.♥
100, Old Broad St., EC2N 1BQ 01-588 6010

Capital	104.9	111.6xd	.....	3.60
Income	81.4	86.7xd	.....	8.79
North American	104.7	111.4	.....	2.49

Prices on Sept. 17. Next dealing Oct. 1

Carliol Unit Fd. Mgrs. Ltd.♥ (a)(c)
Milburn House, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 21165

Carliol High. Yld.	36.9	39.4	-1.0	9.69
Do. Accum. Units	52.7	56.4	-1.0	9.69

Carr, Sebag Unit Trust Managers(a)
57/63, Princess St., Manchester 061-236 5685

Carr, Sebag Cap. Fd.	41.7	44.3xd	+0.1	4.01
Carr, Sebag Inc. Fd.	30.2	32.1xd	-0.1	9.05

Charities Charities N/R Fund‡‡
15, Moorgate, London, EC2. 01-638 4121

Income August 29		116.83xd	.....	11.98
D. Accum. Aug 29		190.60xd	.....	11.98

Charities Official Invest. Fund‡‡
77 London Wall, EC2N 1DB. 01-588 1815

Income Aug. 19		152.56	.....	7.87
Accum. Aug. 19		361.09	.....	—

Chieftain Trust Managers Ltd♥ (a)(g)
11, New St., EC2M 4TP. 01-283 2632

American	28.0	30.4	+0.1	1.91
Far Eastern Trust	28.6	31.2xd	-0.3	1.27
High Income	36.4	39.5	-0.2	11.81
International Trust	40.2	44.7	-0.1	1.96
Basic Resources Tst.	62.8	68.1xd	+3.2	1.75
Incm. Growth Tst.	24.0	26.1	-0.2	8.29
Pref. & Gilt Tst.	22.2	24.1	+0.1	13.62
Smaller Co's Trust	24.5	26.6	-0.2	4.17

Choularton Fund Managers(g)
57-63, Princess St., Manchester. 061-236 5685

Growth	16.6	17.9	+0.1	4.66
International	64.2	69.4xd	-0.8	1.48
High Income	31.5	34.1	.....	11.67

Confederation Funds Mgt. Ltd. (a)
50, Chancery Lane, WC2A 1HE. 01-242 0282

Growth Fund	68.8	72.4	-0.1	4.11

For Cosmopolitan see Choularton Fund Managers.

Craigmount Unit Tst. Mgrs. Ltd.
Bucklersbury, London EC4N 8BD. 01-248 4984

High Income	36.3	39.7	-0.3	11.39
North American	56.4	60.8xd	+0.8	2.83
Canadian Exempt*	61.7	65.2	-0.6	3.62
Canadian Trust	61.7	66.7	-0.3	2.70
Mid Mount High Inc.*	48.5	51.3xd	+0.1	9.41
Recovery	58.3	63.4	-0.4	6.81
Gilt Trust	44.4	46.4xd	-0.3	12.47

*Weekly dealing day Wednesday.

Crescent Unit Tst. Mngrs. Ltd. (a)(g)
4 Melville Cres., Edinburgh 3 031-226 4931

Cres. Amer. Fd.	36.5	38.3	.....	0.98
Cres. Internat'l.	69.1	74.6	-0.5	2.35
Cres. High. Dist.	42.1	45.4	-0.2	10.74
Cres. Reserves	50.8	54.8	-0.2	5.47
Cres. Tokyo	22.7	24.5xd	-0.5	0.85

Dartington Unit Trust Mngt. Ltd.
Bridge. Chambers, Barnstaple, Devon 0271 76324

Total Perf. Unit Tst.	24.1	25.5	.....	12.29

Discretionary Unit Fund Managers
Bilbao Hse, 36/38 New Broad St, EC2M 1NU.
01-638 4485

Disc. Inc. Sept. 12	225.5	240.5	.....	5.48

E. F. Winchester Fund Mngt. Ltd.
44, Bloomsbury Square, WC1A 2RA 01-623 8893

Great Winchester	17.3	19.1	.....	7.60
Gt. Winchester O'seas	23.8	26.4	.....	4.22

Emson & Dudley Tst. Mngmnt. Ltd.
28b Albemarle St., W1. 01-493 3211

Emson Dudley Tst.	82.1	88.3	.....	6.00

Equity & Law Un. Tr. M.♥ (a)(b)(c)
Amersham Rd., High Wycombe. 0494 33377

Equity & Law	86.1	90.6xd	-0.2	4.86

Fidelity International Management Ltd.
Fidelity International Management Ltd.(z)

American	30.4	32.7	.....	1.00
Gilt + Fixed Int.	25.7	27.1	+0.1	12.11
Growth + Income	31.0	33.4	-0.2	7.27
Special Sits.	36.1	38.9xd	-0.2	2.31

James Finlay Unit Trust Mngt. Ltd.
10-14, West Nile Street, Glasgow. 041-204 1321

J. Finlay Internat'l	35.6	38.3	.....	1.61
Accum. Units	43.8	47.1	.....	1.61
J. Finlay High Income	34.0	36.6xd	.....	10.44
J. Finlay Euro. Fin.	21.6	23.2xd	.....	3.88
Accum. Units	27.0	29.0xd	.....	3.88
J. Finlay Fd. In. Tst.	38.8	41.7	.....	5.82
Accum. Units	47.9	51.5	.....	5.82

Prices on Sept. 17. Next dealing Sept. 24.

Framlington Unit Mgt. Ltd. (a)
64, London Wall, EC2M 5NQ. 01-628 5181

Amer. & Gen. Sept. 22.	68.8	73.4xd	+3.4	0.90
Am. T'around Sept. 22.	63.6	68.0	+2.2	1.75
Capital Tst.	57.0	61.0xd	-0.6	5.54
(Accum. Units)	59.6	63.6	-0.6	5.34
Extra Income Trust	49.0	52.4	-0.8	10.42
Income Tst.	39.4	42.0	-0.4	8.45
Int. Growth Fd.	55.4	59.2	-0.2	1.81
(Accum. Units)	58.8	62.8	-0.2	1.81

Friends' Provdt. Trust Mgrs.♥
Pixham End, Dorking. 0306 5055

Friends Prov. Units	59.1	63.2	-0.4	4.40
Do. Accum.	83.5	89.2	+0.2	4.40

Funds in Court*
Public Trustee, Kingsway, WC2. 01-405 4300

Capital Sept. 18	139.8	143.0	.....	4.78
Gross Inc. Sept. 18	83.3	85.0	.....	11.06
High Yield Sept. 18	93.5	96.8xd	.....	10.26

*Unauth. Restricted to monies under Court control.

G.T. Unit Managers Ltd.♥
16, Finsbury Circus, EC2M 7DJ. 01-628 8131

G.T. Cap. Income	146.3	151.9	-0.3	2.70
Do. Acc.	179.4	192.6	-0.3	2.70
G.T. Inc. Fd. Un.	206.0	221.4	+2.9	8.30
G.T. U.S. & Gen	178.3	191.7	+1.8	2.00
GT Wld. Bd. Fd.	95.2	99.1	-1.3	6.70
G.T. Japan & Gen.	79.8	85.7	-2.9	1.70
♦Gt. Pens. Ex. Fd.	312.6	329.0	+2.3	2.30
G.T. Int'l. Fund	213.1	229.1	+0.8	1.60
G.T. Four Yds. Fd.	53.9	57.9	-0.3	7.40
G.T. Far East & Gen.	70.5	75.8	-0.8	2.20

G. & A. Trust (a) (g)
5 Rayleigh Road, Brentwood (0277) 227300

G. & A.	43.1	46.0	-0.2	5.07

Gartmore Fund Managers♥ (a)(g)
2 St. Mary Axe, EC3A 8BP 01-623 6114
Dealing only: 01-623 5766/5806

American Trust	35.1	37.7	+0.4	0.44
British Tst. (Acc.)	72.4	77.9	.....	3.83
British Tst. (Dist.)	72.4	77.9	.....	3.83
Commodity Share	58.4	62.8	+1.1	2.46
Extra Income Tst.	22.5	24.3	-0.1	10.01
Far East Trust	44.1	47.5xd	-0.2	1.63
Gilt Trust	25.1	26.2	.....	12.39
High Income Tst.	54.7	58.9	.....	10.61
Income Fund	82.8	88.4	-0.5	7.12
Ins. Agencies	£17.43	18.48	+0.11	4.73
Intl. Exempt Fd.	117.6	127.8	+0.5	4.95
Intl. Tst. (Acc.)	48.6	52.3	+0.6	1.22
Special Sits. Tst.	38.0	40.0xd	+0.2	1.48

Gibbs (Antony) Unit Tst. Mgs. Ltd. (a)
3 Frederick's Pl., Old Jewry, EC2 01-588 4111

Extra Income	29.9	32.6xd	+0.5	10.90
Income	40.2	44.8	.....	10.40
Accumulation	84.8	91.2	-1.2	6.00
Growth	49.0	53.3	+0.9	4.40
UK Mkt. Leaders	54.5	58.7	-0.1	5.40
Small Co's	42.4	46.1	-0.3	5.50
Technology	65.3	71.0	-0.1	6.50
Private	51.7	56.2xd	+0.1	3.10
Intl. Erns. & Assets	58.2	63.3	+1.6	6.00
American	28.9	31.5	+0.2	1.60
Far East & Gen.	35.7	38.4xd	+0.6	1.40

Govett (John)
77 London Wall, EC2 01-588 5620

Stockholder Sept. 19	154.8	163.2	.....	2.11
Do. Accum. Unit	195.1	205.7	.....	2.11
St. European	72.3	74.1	.....	3.60

Next dealing Oct. 3.

Grieveson Management Co. Ltd.
59 Gresham Street, EC2P 2DS 01-606 4433

Barrington Sept. 17	308.5	328.2	.....	4.45
(Accum. Units)	361.2	384.3	.....	4.45
Barrgtn. H.Y. Sept. 19	178.6	190.1	.....	10.05
(Accum. Units)	240.7	256.1	.....	10.05
Brgtn. Sm. Sept. 19	119.0	126.6	.....	5.20
Endeav. Sept. 16	318.7	334.6	.....	1.27
(Accum. Units)	342.3	359.3	.....	1.27
Grnchstr. Sept. 19	104.8	110.2	.....	2.46
(Accum. Units)	113.5	119.2	.....	2.46
Ln. & Brus. Sept. 17	73.3	77.1	.....	4.75
(Accum. Units)	82.6	86.7	.....	4.75

Guardian Royal Ex. Unit Mgrs. Ltd.
Royal Exchange, EC3P 3DN 01-628 8011

(ag) Guardhill Tst.	126.7	131.2xd	+0.2	4.59

Henderson Administration (a) (b) (c)
Premier UT Admin., 5, Rayleigh Road, Hutton,
Brentwood, Essex. 0277 217238

U.K. Funds				
Cabot Capital Trust	163.4	176.5xd	-0.7	3.02
(Accum. Units)	210.1	226.9xd	-1.0	3.02
Cabot Recovery	49.8	53.3xd	-0.8	7.27
Cap. Growth Inc.	82.1	87.8xd	-0.7	2.56
Cap. Growth Acc.	87.7	93.8xd	-0.8	2.56
Inc. & Assets	39.3	42.1xd	-0.3	6.77
High Income Funds				
Cabot Income Trust	185.6	200.4	-0.8	5.82
(Accum. Units)	280.1	302.5	-1.2	5.82
High Income	64.9	69.4	-0.4	8.82
Cab. Extra Inc.	54.8	58.6xd	-0.2	10.20
Cab. Sm. Cos. Div.	40.5	43.3	-0.1	10.36
Cabot Pf. & Gilt	44.0	47.3xd	.....	13.61
Gilt Trust	49.0	51.0	+0.1	11.76
Sector Funds				
Financial & ITU	47.3	50.9	-0.3	2.48
Oil & Nat. Res.	61.5	66.8	+0.6	1.58
International				
International	46.6	49.8	.....	0.92
World Wide Sept. 19.	147.5	156.9	.....	3.61
Overseas Funds				
Australian	87.2	94.8	-1.3	1.74
European	42.7	45.7	-0.6	2.81
Far East	74.2	79.4	-1.3	1.49
Pacific Sm. Cos.	70.9	75.6xd	+0.4	1.78
North Amer.	45.9	49.5	-0.2	0.67
Cabot Am. Sm.	74.1	80.0	-0.2	1.17
Exempt Funds				
High Inc. Exempt(b)	—	£1.00	.....	30.00
Smlr. Cos. (b)	133.6	158.2	-1.4	3.59
Euro. Exempt Sept. 19.	108.9	115.4	.....	3.09
Japan Sept. 19	85.3	88.9xd	.....	0.98
North Amer. Sept. 19	151.3	157.6	.....	1.28

Hill Samuel Unit Tst. Mgrs.† (a)
45 Beech St., EC2P 2LX 01-628 8011

(b) British Trust	191.1	204.4	+0.1	4.75
(b) Capital Trust	36.5	39.1	.....	4.55
(g) Dollar Trust	80.3	85.9	-0.1	2.34
(g) Far East	25.5	27.3	-0.6	0.94
(b) Financial Trust	138.9	148.6xd	-0.7	3.95
(b) Gilt & Fxd. Int. Tst.	24.6	25.5	.....	12.16
(b) High Yield Tst	26.1	28.0	-0.4	10.30
(b) Income Trust	28.2	30.2	-0.3	7.57
(g) Int'l Trust	36.9	39.5	-0.3	2.66
(b) Security Trust	61.1	65.4xd	+0.1	4.92
(b) Spec. Sits. Tst	30.5	32.7xd	-0.2	3.28
Gen. Exempt Sept. 15	£167.0	177.0xd	.....	4.80

Investment Intelligence Ltd.♥ (a)(g)
15, Christopher Street, E.C.2. 01-247 7243

Intel. Amer. Tech. Fd.	63.0	67.0	+0.7	0.20
Intel. Inc. & Growth	30.5	32.9	-0.2	7.90
Intel Pacific Fund	83.6	89.0	-1.0	1.80
Intel Small Co's Fd.	88.4	94.0	-0.9	4.60

Key Fund Managers Ltd. (a)(g)
25, Milk St., EC2V 8JE. 01-606 7070

Key Energy In. Fd.	176.9	188.2	+3.8	1.94
Key Equity & Gen.	83.5	88.8	.....	5.25
♦Key Exempt Fd.	220.9	235.0	.....	6.02
Key Income Fund	73.4	78.0	-0.5	9.92
Key Fixed Int. Fd.	49.2	52.4xd	.....	14.28
Key Small Co's Fd.	145.0	154.2xd	-1.0	5.50

Kleinwort Benson Unit Managers♥
20, Fenchurch St., EC3 01-623 8000

K.B. Unit Fd. Inc.	114.2	123.9xd	.....	5.77
K.B. Unit Fd. Ac.	157.1	170.5	.....	5.77
K.B. Fd. Inv. Tsts.	72.5	78.6xd	.....	4.48
K.B. Fd. In. Tst. Acc.	79.0	85.7	.....	4.48
KB Smlr Co's Fd Inc.	55.0	60.2xd	.....	6.40
KB Sm. Cos. Fd. Acc.	60.9	66.6	.....	6.40
KB High Yld. Fd. Inc.	51.2	55.8	.....	9.10
KB High Yld. Acc.	58.5	63.7	.....	9.10

L & C Unit Trust *Management* Ltd.♥
The Stock Exchange, EC2N 1HP. 01-588 2800

L&C Inc. Fund	152.7	157.5	.....	10.34
L&C Intl & Gen Fd.	126.3	129.2	.....	2.59

Legal & General (Unit Tst. Mngrs.) Ltd.♥
5 Rayleigh Rd., Brentwood 0277 217238

Equity Trust Sept. 10	85.7	90.8xd	.....	4.82
(Accum. Units)	116.7	123.7xd	.....	4.82

Next sub. day October 8.

Leonine Administration Ltd.
2, St. Mary Axe, EC3A 8BP. 01-623 6114.

Leo Distribution	116.2	123.3	.....	1.87
Leo Accum.	135.9	144.2	.....	1.59

Lloyds Bk. Unit Tst. Mngrs. Ltd.♥ (a)
Registrar's Dept., Goring-by-Sea,
Worthing, West Sussex. 01-623 1288

Balanced	68.7	73.8	-0.1	4.76
Do. (Accum.)	102.2	109.8	-0.3	4.76
Extra Income	61.5	66.1	-0.5	9.54
Do. (Accum.)	79.8	85.7	-0.7	9.54
Income	93.2	100.2	-0.8	7.34
Do. (Accum.)	141.1	151.7	-1.3	7.34
Int. Technology	59.5	63.9	-0.3	0.95
Do. (Accum.)	59.5	63.9	-0.3	0.95
Small Cos. & Recy.	50.0	53.7	-0.5	4.92
Do. (Accum.)	50.0	53.7	-0.5	4.92
Worldwide Gwth.	75.8	81.5	-0.4	2.39
Do. (Accum.)	99.7	107.3	-0.5	2.39
Exempt♦ Sept. 2	111.7	117.5	.....	7.25

♦Unauthorised. For tax exempt funds only.

Lloyd's Life Unit Tst. Mngrs. Ltd.
72-80, Gatehouse Rd., Aylesbury. 0296 5941

Equity Accum.	234.0	246.4	.....	4.97

Local Authorities' Mutual Invest. Tst.*
77, London Wall, EC2N 1DB. 01-588 1815

Prop. Fund Aug. 31		144.75	.....	6.24
Wider Fund Aug. 31		283.95	.....	5.68
Narrower Fd. Aug. 31		75.65	.....	13.12

*Unauthorised. Available only to Local Authorities.

M & G Group (y)(c)(z)
Three Quays, Tower Hill, EC3R 6BQ. 01-626 4588
See also Stock Exchange Dealings.

American	59.2	62.8	+0.4	2.07
(Accum. Units)	62.8	66.6	+0.3	2.07
American Recovery	60.3	64.5	-0.2	2.02
(Accum. Units)	61.9	65.8	-0.3	2.02
Australasian	118.7	128.8	-0.1	0.72
(Accum. Units)	124.0	134.5	-0.1	0.72
Commodity	133.2	141.9xd	+2.5	3.04
(Accum. Units)	154.8	164.9	+2.9	3.04
Compound Growth	166.3	180.4	+0.7	3.60
Conversion Growth	114.6	122.1	+0.5	2.58
Conversion Inc.	77.2	82.2xd	+1.0	9.25
Dividend	136.1	146.3	-0.4	9.00
(Accum. Units)	291.8	313.7	-0.7	9.00
European	66.4	70.7	+0.5	3.51
(Accum. Units)	71.8	76.5	+0.5	3.51
Extra Yield	83.0	90.1xd	-0.6	10.29
(Accum. Units)	130.1	141.2	-0.9	10.29
Far Eastern	92.0	98.0xd	+0.1	1.54
(Accum. Units)	104.9	111.7	+0.1	1.54
Fund of Inv. Tsts.	90.3	96.2	+0.1	4.34
(Accum. Units)	119.2	127.0	+0.2	4.34
General	226.8	243.6	-0.2	5.72
(Accum. Units)	383.6	412.4	-0.4	5.72
High Income	112.5	119.8	.....	9.67
(Accum. Units)	216.2	230.3	.....	9.67
Japan	140.8	150.0	-3.2	1.77
(Accum. Units)	147.2	156.8	-3.2	1.77
Magnum	369.2	393.2xd	+10.6	4.08
(Accum. Units)	501.0	533.6	+14.4	4.08
Midland	166.4	177.2	-1.1	9.87
(Accum. Units)	306.6	326.5	-2.1	9.87
Recovery	118.7	126.4	-0.4	6.48
(Accum. Units)	130.7	139.2	-0.5	6.48
Second Gen.	240.2	260.6	+0.4	5.00
(Accum. Units)	393.2	426.6	+0.7	5.00
Smaller Companies	252.4	268.8	+1.5	4.51
(Accum. Units)	340.2	362.3	+2.0	4.51
Specialised Funds				
Trustee	169.4	182.1	-0.6	6.78
(Accum. Units)	371.3	399.2	-1.2	6.78
Charibond Sept. 16		104.0	.....	11.98
Charifund Sept. 23	170.5	173.1	-1.4	8.52
Pension Ex. Sept. 22	178.7	188.5	.....	6.18

ManuLife Management Ltd.
St. George's Way, Stevenage. 0438 56101

Growth Units	76.7	80.7	.....	5.21

Mayflower Management Co. Ltd.
14-18, Gresham St., EC2V 7AU. 01-606 8099

Income Sept. 22	107.4	113.1xd	.....	9.38
General Sept. 22	75.6	79.6xd	.....	5.71
Intnl. Sept. 22	55.7	58.6xd	.....	2.70

Mercury Fund Managers Ltd.
30, Gresham St., EC2P 2EB. 01-600 4555

Mrc. Gen. Sept. 24	62.1	66.0xd	-0.1	4.65
Acc. Units Sept. 24	88.5	94.1	-0.2	4.65
Mrc. Int. Sept. 24	93.6	99.6	+2.8	2.09
Acc. Units Sept. 24	107.1	113.9	+3.2	2.09
Merc. Ext. Aug. 28	72.7	75.7xd	.....	6.13
Accum. Units Aug. 28	95.5	99.5	.....	6.13

Midland Bank Group
Unit Trust Managers Ltd.♥ (a)
Courtwood House, Silver Street, Head,
Sheffield, S1 3RD. Tel: 0742 79842

Commodity & Gen.	121.2	132.4	+1.1	3.10
Acc. Uts.	150.5	164.3	+1.3	3.10
Overseas Growth	42.3	45.7	.....	1.50
Do. Accum.	47.7	51.5	.....	1.50
Capital	32.3	34.9	+0.1	3.97
Do. Accum.	37.9	41.0	+0.1	3.97
Income	60.7	65.6	-0.2	6.80
Do. Accum.	79.1	85.5	-0.3	6.80
North American	42.0	45.4	+0.1	2.07
Do. Accum.	46.4	50.2	+0.1	2.07
High Yield	62.6	67.7	-0.5	9.36
Do. Accum.	75.3	81.5	-0.7	9.36
Equity Exempt*	130.5	137.7	.....	5.04
Do. Accum.*	140.4	148.1	.....	5.04
Japan & Pacific	41.7	45.1xd	-0.6	1.16
Do. Accum.	42.6	46.1	-0.5	1.16

*Prices at Sept. 19. Next dealing Sept. 26.

Minster Fund Managers Ltd.
Minster Hse., Arthur St., EC4R 9BH 01-623 1050

Minster Sept. 15	40.8	42.8	.....	8.83
Exempt	104.0	108.0	.....	6.25

MLA Unit Trust Mngmnt. Ltd.
Old Queen Street, SW1A 9JG. 01-222 8177

MLA Units	72.9	76.5	+0.7	4.07

Murray Johnstone U.T. Mgmt.♥ (a)
163, Hope Street, Glasgow, G2 2UH. 041-221 5521

MJ European	64.4	68.6xd	.....	2.57

Dealing Day Friday.

Mutual Unit Trust Managers♥ (a)(g)
15 Copthall Ave., EC2R 7BU. 01-606 4803

Mutual Sec. Plus	56.7	61.0	+0.2	7.04
Mutual Inc. Tst.	80.5	87.4	-0.1	7.41
Mutual Blue Chip	52.1	56.2	.....	6.56
Mutual High Yld.	57.6	61.7	-0.2	9.82

National Provident Inv. Mngrs. Ltd.♥
48, Gracechurch St., EC3P 3HH. 01-623 4200

N.P.I. Gth. Un. Tst.	62.1	66.1	.....	6.30
(Accum. Units)*	82.8	88.1	.....	6.30
NPI O'seas Trust	156.3	164.4xd	.....	2.95
(Accum. Units)**	176.8	187.1	.....	2.95

*Prices on Sept. 17. Next dealing Oct. 1.
**Prices on Aug. 28. Next dealing Sept. 25.

National Westminster♥ (a)
161, Cheapside, EC2V 6EU. 01-606 6060

Capital (Accum.)	97.0	104.3	-0.3	3.86
Extra Inc.	59.4	63.8	-0.3	10.02
Financial	44.2	47.5	-0.2	4.98
Growth Inv.	100.1	107.6	-0.3	4.79
Income	39.1	42.0xd	-0.3	7.73
Portfolio Inv. Fd.	79.3	85.3	+0.1	6.23
Smaller Companies	54.5	58.6xd	-0.1	5.36
Universal Fd.	57.7	62.0	+0.5	2.09

NEL Trust Managers Ltd.♥ (a)(g)
Milton Court, Dorking, Surrey. 5911

Nelstar	79.4	83.5	+0.4	5.52
Nelstar High Inc.	36.7	38.6xd	-0.1	10.45
Nelstar International	50.1	52.7	-0.1	3.83

Northgate Unit Trust Managers Ltd. (c)(y)
20, Moorgate, EC2R 6AQ 01-606 4477

Northgat Sept. 18	108.2	115.2	.....	5.12
(Accum. Units)	111.0	118.1	.....	5.12

Norwich Union Insurance Group (b)
P.O. Box 4, Norwich, NR1 3NG. 0603 22200

Group Tst. Fund	435.9	458.8	+0.7	5.67

Pearl Trust Managers Ltd. (a)(g)(z)
252, High Holborn, WC1V 7EB. 01-405 8441

Pearl Growth Fd.	30.3	32.6	-0.1	5.24
Accum Units	39.0	42.0	-0.1	5.24
Pearl Inc.	36.7	39.5	-0.3	7.65
Pearl Unit Tst.	42.4	45.6	-0.3	6.18
(Accum. Units)	59.8	64.4	-0.4	6.18

Pelican Units Admin. Ltd. (g)(x)
57-63, Princess St., Manchester. 061-236 5685

Pelican Units	119.6	128.7	+0.9	5.52

Perpetual Unit Trust Mngmt.♥ (a)
48, Hart St., Henley on Thames 04912 6868

P'petual Gp. Growth	63.2	68.2	.....	4.98
P'petual Gp. Income	49.5	53.4	.....	8.38

Practical Invest. Co. Ltd. (y)(c)
44, Bloomsbury Sq., WC1A 2RA 01-623 8893

Practical Sept. 17	192.7	204.5	.....	4.65
Accum. Units	292.0	309.7	.....	4.65

Provincial Life Inv. Co. Ltd.♥
222, Bishopsgate, EC2. 01-247 6533

Prolific Units	111.3	119.2	+0.1	3.43
Prolific High Inc.	147.2	157.7	-0.2	7.56

Prudl. Portfolio Mngrs. Ltd.♥ (a)(b)(c)
Holborn Bars, EC1N 2NH. 01-405 9222

Prudential	160.0	170.0	.....	5.05

Quilter Management Co. Ltd.♥
The Stock Exchange, EC2N 1HP. 01-600 4177

Quadrant Gen. Fd.	146.6	152.6	.....	5.17
Quadrant Income	120.8	124.6	.....	9.72
Quadrant Intl. Fund	130.5	134.6	.....	1.26
Quadrant Recovery	102.9	106.1xd	.....	7.13

Reliance Unit Mgrs. Ltd.♥
Reliance Hse., Tunbridge Wells, Kt. 0892 22271

Opportunity Fund	75.7	80.9	-1.2	6.41
Seldforde Tst. (Acc.)	47.3	50.6	-0.3	6.02
Seldforde Tst. Inc.	42.8	45.8	-0.2	6.02

Ridgefield Management Ltd.
1 Finsbury Sq., EC2A 1PD 01-588 6906

Income UT	79.5	85.5	-0.3	12.80
International UT	108.6	116.7	-0.1	1.80

Rothschild Asset Management (g)
72-80, Gatehouse Rd., Aylesbury. 0296 5941

N. C. Equity Fund	199.9	212.6	-0.9	5.88
N.C. Engy. Res. Tst.	193.2	205.6	-0.1	2.45
N.C. Income Fund	144.6	153.8	-0.5	8.67
N.C. Intl. Fd. (Inc.)	110.8	117.8	+0.7	0.99
N.C. Intl. Fd. (Acc.)	115.5	122.8	+0.8	0.99
N.C. Smlr Coys Fd.	221.4	235.6xd	-0.8	4.69

Rowan Unit Trust Mngt. Ltd.♥ (a)
City Gate Hse., Finsbury Sq., EC2. 01-606 1066

American Sept. 18	85.5	88.5	.....	1.13
Securities Sept. 23	251.0	263.0xd	+1.0	4.25
High Yield Sept. 19	61.2	64.5	.....	9.07
(Accum. Units)	99.0	104.3	.....	9.07
Merlin Sept. 17	130.9	137.8	.....	4.01
(Accum. Units)	172.4	181.5	.....	4.01

Royal Tst. Can. Fd. Mgrs. Ltd.
48-50, Cannon St., London EC4M 6LD 01-236 6044

Capital Fund	88.8	95.4xd	.....	4.36
Income Fund	73.4	78.9	.....	9.59

Prices on Sept. 15. Next dlg. day Sept. 30

Saturn Fund Management Limited
66, Cannon Street, EC4N 6AE 01-236 1425

SIMCO Call Fund†		100.0	.....	16.24
SIMCO 7-Day Fund†		100.0	.....	16.58

†Unauthorised. Cash Deposit Funds.

Save & Prosper Group♥
4, Great St. Helens, London EC3P 3EP
68-73 Queen St., Edinburgh EH2 4NX
Dealings to: 01-554 8899 or 031-226 7351

International Funds				
Capital	42.2	45.3	-0.1	3.28
I.T.U.	33.6	37.3	-0.1	4.16
Select International	348.3	367.5	+1.5	2.87
Univ. Growth	90.7	97.5	-0.3	1.76
Increasing Income Funds				
High-Yield	55.9	60.1	-0.1	8.43
Select Income	56.0	60.2	-0.2	7.85
High Income Funds				
Gilt & Fxd. Int. Inc.	49.3	51.9	-0.3	12.06
High Return	63.4	68.2	-1.0	9.97
Income	42.2	45.3xd	-0.2	10.61
U.K. Funds				
Gilt & Fxd. Int. Grth.	51.2	51.8	-0.4	7.72
UK Equity	58.9	63.3	-0.1	4.79
Overseas Funds (z)				
Europe	74.5	80.1	-1.6	2.19
Japan	80.5	86.5xd	-2.2	0.56
S.E. Asia	64.0	68.8	-1.0	0.94
U.S.	96.6	102.7	-0.5	1.09
Sector Funds				
Commodity	149.5	160.7xd	-0.2	2.88
Energy	147.7	158.8	+1.0	1.21
Financial Secs.	86.5	93.0	-0.7	3.24
Fixed-Interest Fund (z)				
Intl. Bond Fd.	55.1	58.8xd	-0.8	4.02
Exempt Funds♦				
Exempt Income*	189.6	210.2xd	.....	8.19
Exempt Intl.*	303.1	319.8	.....	2.08

*Prices at Sept. 10. Next sub. day Sept. 24.

Scotbits Securities Ltd.

Scotbits	49.5	53.0	.....	4.14
Scotyield	52.1	56.0xd	-0.4	8.94
Scotshares	76.8	82.5	+0.1	4.95

J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Ltd.♥(a)(c)
120, Cheapside, E.C.2. 01-240 3434

Capital Sept. 23	153.3	164.8	+2.7	3.04
(Accum. Units)	194.6	209.2	+3.4	3.04
Income Fd. Sept. 23	216.7	253.0	-3.1	8.05
(Accum. Units)	361.7	388.9	-5.1	8.05
Gen. Sept. 17	115.9	124.6	.....	4.03
(Accum. Units)	154.8	166.4	.....	4.03
Europe Sept. 18	25.0	26.8	.....	3.82
(Accum. Units)	28.9	31.0	.....	3.82
*Pn & Ch Fd Sept. 23	226.9	233.9	+8.0	4.72
*Recovery Sept. 16	263.9	272.0xd	.....	4.91
*Spec. Ex. Sept. 16	397.3	409.5	.....	2.89

*For tax exempt funds only

Scottish Equitable Fnd. Mgrs. Ltd.♥
28 St. Andrews Sq. Edinburgh 031-556 9101

Income Units	62.9	66.9	+0.1	5.29
Accum. Units	78.3	83.3	+0.1	5.29

Dealing day Wednesday.
For Sebag see Carr, Sebag Unit Trust Managers.

Security Selection Ltd.
Regis Hse., King William St., EC4. 01-623 4951

Unvl Gth Tst Acc.	34.8	37.1	.....	8.09
Unvl Gth Tst Inc.	26.8	28.6	.....	8.09

Stewart Unit Tst. Managers Ltd.(a)
45, Charlotte Sq., Edinburgh. 031-226 3271

†Stewart American Fund				
Standard Units	77.4	82.4	.....	1.49
Accum. Units	85.2	90.7	.....	—
Withdrawal Units	54.4	58.1	.....	—
***Stewart British Capital Fund**				
Standard	177.6	187.9	.....	6.85
Accum. Units	206.1	218.7	.....	6.85

Dealing †Tues. & Fri. *Wed.

Sun Alliance Fund Mngt. Ltd.
Sun Alliance Hse., Horsham. 0403 64141

Ex. Eq. Sept. 10	£319.40	336.30	.....	4.68
♥The Family Fd.	130.6	138.9	-0.6	4.79

Target Tst. Mngrs. Ltd.♥(a)(g)
31, Gresham St., E.C.2. Dealings: 0296 5941.
19, Athol Crescent, Edin. 3. 031-229 8621/2

Commodity	69.1	74.7	+0.3	2.41
Energy	48.7	53.5	.....	2.65
Financial	93.4	101.4xd	-0.3	3.86
Gilt Accum.	131.5	139.2	.....	3.50
Gilt Income	96.0	100.0	.....	12.00
Investment Trust	43.9	47.5	-0.1	3.18
Special Situations	28.4	30.7xd	.....	3.88
American Eagle	34.4	37.2	+0.3	1.18
Pacific Income	30.2	32.6xd	.....	2.01
Pacific Accum.	35.1	37.9	.....	2.01
Income	26.6	28.8	-0.2	10.28
Extra Income	51.0	55.1xd	-0.4	11.84
Preference Share	12.4	13.7	.....	12.68
Equity	51.6	55.8	+0.2	5.66
Income and Growth	48.3	53.5	-0.1	3.86
Growth	39.5	42.7xd	-0.3	3.76
Professional Sept. 24	227.9	245.1	+4.6	4.41
Eqty. Ex. Inc. Sept. 24.	288.0	309.7	-4.0	5.95
Equity Ex. Acc.	429.3	461.6	-6.0	5.95

Tower Unit Trust Mngt. Ltd.
39/45 Finsbury Square, EC2A 1PX 01-628 2294

Income & Growth	24.3	25.5	.....	8.01
Special Situations	29.7	31.2	-0.2	2.73

Trades Union Unit Tst. Managers♥
100, Wood Street, E.C.2. 01-628 8011

TUUT Sept. 1	58.9	62.7xd	.....	5.81

Transatlantic and Gen. Secs. (c) (y)
91-99, New London Rd., Chelmsford. 0245-51651

Barbican Sept. 18	88.1	93.5	.....	6.02
(Accum. Units)	150.1	159.3	.....	6.02
Barb. Exempt Aug. 27	67.0	68.6	.....	2.95
Buckingham Sept. 18	96.8	103.0	.....	5.37
(Accum. Units)	130.1	138.4	.....	5.37
Colemco Sept. 19	171.2	180.3	.....	6.16
(Accum. Units)	232.1	244.5	.....	6.16
Cumberland Sept. 17	57.2	60.5	.....	8.25
(Accum. Units)	70.1	74.2	.....	8.25
Fielding Intnl. Sept. 18	107.2	113.2	.....	2.79
(Accum. Units)	107.2	113.2	.....	2.79
Glen Sept. 23	70.1	74.9	+1.2	4.02
(Accum. Units)	96.7	103.3	+1.7	4.02
Marlborough Sept. 23	62.2	65.9xd	+2.2	2.41
(Accum. Units)	76.8	80.1	+2.7	2.41
Vangrd. Gwth. Sept. 23	64.0	68.0	-0.1	3.00
(Accum. Units)	83.5	88.7	-0.1	3.00
Vanguard HY Sept. 23	72.3	77.4	+0.5	9.30
Vangd. Tst'ee Sept. 17	52.6	55.6xd	.....	6.15
(Accum. units)	61.3	64.8	.....	6.15
Wickmoor Sept. 18	79.7	84.6	.....	4.74
(Accum. Units)	103.2	109.4	.....	4.74
Wickmoor Dv. Sept. 19	71.1	76.1	.....	9.30
(Accum. Units)	92.6	99.1	.....	9.30

Tyndall Managers Ltd.(a)(b)(c)
18, Canynge Road, Bristol. 0272 32241

Capital	172.2	182.6	+0.2	4.41
(Accum. Units)	260.4	276.2	+0.6	4.41
Income	95.0	100.8xd	-0.6	10.53
(Accum. Units)	203.8	216.2	-1.4	10.53
Pref.	97.2	103.2	.....	14.64
(Accum. Units)	141.6	150.2	.....	14.64
Exempt	123.8	130.0xd	-0.2	9.83
(Accum. Units)	201.4	211.6	-0.2	9.83
Int. Erns.	316.2	336.2	+1.4	5.63
(Accum. Units)	384.2	407.4	+2.0	5.63
North Amer. Grth.	58.4	62.0	+0.4	2.8
(Accum. Units)	59.5	63.1	+0.4	2.8
Far Eastern	56.2	59.6xd	-0.7	1.62
(Accum. Units)	56.5	59.9	-0.7	1.62
Gilt Income	98.3	101.1	-0.2	12.35
(Accum. Units)	98.3	101.2	-0.2	12.35
Natural Resources	194.4	205.2	+2.2	4.17
Accum. Units	250.0	265.2	+2.8	4.17

24, Castle St., Edinburgh. 031 225 1168

Scot. Inc.	161.2	171.0	-0.6	11.35

London Wall Group 0272 32241

Capital Growth	79.2	84.8xd	+0.3	5.04
Do. Accum.	91.9	98.4	+0.4	5.04
Extra Inc. Growth	27.5	29.7	-0.3	12.37
Do. Accum.	37.9	41.0	-0.3	12.37
Financial Pr'rty	24.8	26.6	-0.1	4.04
Do. Accum.	32.9	35.3	-0.1	4.04
High Inc. Priority	45.6	49.3	-0.2	11.44
International	28.3	30.3xd	-0.1	2.54
Special Sits.	34.2	36.6	-0.2	5.08

TSB Unit Trusts (y)
PO Box 3, Keens Hse, Andover, Hants, SP10 1PG.
0264 62188. Dealings to 0264 63432-3

(b) TSB General	59.3	63.8	-0.2	4.56
(b) Do. Accum.	82.3	88.5	-0.2	4.56
(b) TSB Income	64.6	69.5	-0.7	8.46
(b) Do. Accum.	76.3	82.1	-0.8	8.46
(b) TSB Scottish	105.5	113.5	-0.6	2.69
(b) Do. Accum.	118.2	127.2	-0.8	2.69

Ulster Bank♥ (a)
Waring Street, Belfast. 0232 35231

(b) Ulster Growth	40.5	43.5	-0.3	5.63

Unit Trust Account & Mgmt. Ltd.
Regis Hse, King William St., EC4R 9R. 01-623 4951

Friars Hse. Fund	54.0	57.5	.....	4.73
Wieler Growth Fund				
Income Units	36.7	38.7xd	.....	4.23
Accum. Units	46.3	48.8	.....	4.23

INSURANCE PROPERTY BONDS

Abbey Life Assurance Co. Ltd.
1-3 St. Paul's Churchyard, EC4. 01-248 9111

Equity Fund	44.6	47.0	+0.1	—
Equity Acc.	41.4	43.6	+0.1	—
Property Fd.	203.4	214.2	.....	—
Property Acc.	223.2	235.0	-0.1	—
Selective Fund	123.5	130.0	+0.1	—
Convertible Fund	153.3	161.4	+0.3	—
♥Money Fund	142.8	150.4	+0.2	—
♥Prop. Fd. Ser. 4	178.4	187.8	.....	—
♥Man. Fd. Ser. 4	171.1	180.2	-0.3	—
♥Equity Fd. Ser. 4	46.7	49.2	.....	—
♥Conv. Fd. Ser. 4	130.2	137.1	+0.2	—
♥Money Fd. Ser. 4	128.5	135.3	+0.1	—
♥Fixed Interest Fd.	100.6	106.1	-0.8	—
♥High Income Fd.	95.0	100.1	-0.3	—
♥American Fd.	99.0	104.3	+3.3	—
Pension Property	261.3	275.1	+0.1	—
Pension Selective	122.2	128.7	+0.1	—
Pension Managed	243.5	256.4	-0.9	—
Pension Security	175.1	184.4	+0.5	—
Pension Equity Fd.	231.8	244.0	-0.4	—

Prices at September 23. Valuation normally Tuesday.

Albany Life Assurance Co. Ltd.
31, Old Burlington St., W.1. 01-437 5962

♥Equity Fd. Acc.	245.7	258.6	.....	—
♥Fixed Int. Acc.	175.9	185.1	.....	—
♥Gtd. Money Fd. Ac.	135.7	142.7	.....	—
♥Intl. Man. Fd. Acm.	149.6	157.4	.....	—
♥Intl. Fxd. Int. Fd. J.	97.7	102.8	.....	—
♥Prop. Fd. Acc.	138.7	145.9	.....	—
♥M'ple Inv. Acc.	213.6	224.8	.....	—
Equity Pen. Fd. Acc.	315.6	332.2	.....	—
Fixed I. Pen. Acc.	259.8	273.4	.....	—
G'td. Mon. Pen. Acc.	171.1	180.0	.....	—
Intl. Mn. Pn. Fd. Acc.	172.5	181.5	.....	—
Prop. Pen. Acc.	172.6	181.7	.....	—
M'ple Inv. Pen. Acc.	292.3	307.7	.....	—

AMEV Life Assurance Ltd.♥
2-6, Prince of Wales Rd., B'mouth. 0202 762122

AMEV Managed	167.4	176.4	.....	—
AMEV Mgd. 'B'	132.7	139.8	.....	—
AMEV Money Fd.	125.8	132.4	.....	—
AMEV Equity Fd.	130.1	137.1	.....	—
AMEV Fixed Int.	84.4	88.9	.....	—
AMEV Prop. Fd.	126.5	133.3	.....	—
AMEV Mgd. Pen. Fd. B	121.2	127.7	.....	—
AMEV Mgd. Pen.	126.7	133.5	.....	—
Flexifund	104.6	110.2	.....	—
AMEV/Framlington				
American	110.3	116.2	.....	—
Income	109.3	115.2	.....	—
Int. Growth	121.3	127.8	-0.1	—
Capital Fund	116.2	122.4	.....	—

Barclays Life Assur. Co. Ltd.
252 Romford Rd., E7. 01-534 5544

Barclaybonds	154.1	162.3	-0.3	—
Equity	150.0	157.9	-0.6	—
Gilt-edged	121.4	127.8	-0.5	—
Property	149.5	157.4	+0.1	—
International	105.3	110.9	+0.3	—
Managed	133.5	140.6	-0.3	—
Money	117.5	123.5	+0.1	—
Man. Pens. Accum.	146.5	154.4	+0.9	—
Do. Initial	134.3	141.4	+0.7	—
Gilt Edg. Pens. Acc.	133.5	140.6	+0.1	—
Do. Initial	119.2	125.5	+0.1	—
Money Pens. Acc.	130.6	137.5	+0.5	—
Do. Initial	117.5	123.7	+0.4	—

Black Horse Life Ass. Co. Ltd.
71, Lombard St., EC3. 01-623 1288

Black Horse Man. Fd.		131.72	.....	—
Managed Inv. Fd.	110.70	116.53	.....	—
Property Fd.	109.75	115.53	.....	—
Fixed Interest Fd.	103.22	108.66	.....	—
Cash Fd.	109.27	115.66	.....	—
Income Fd.	104.20	109.69	.....	—
Extra Income Fd.	103.60	109.06	.....	—
Worldwide Growth Fd.	126.49	133.15	.....	—
Balanced Fd.	107.72	113.60	.....	—
Smlr Co's & Recy. Fd.	102.85	108.27	.....	—
Int. Technology Fd.	112.28	118.19	.....	—

Canada Life Assurance Co.
2-6, High St., Potters Bar, Herts. P. Bar 51122

Equity Gth. Fd. Sept. 1		70.1	.....	—
Retmt. Fed. Sept. 8		152.5	.....	—

Cannon Assurance Ltd.
1 Olympic Way, Wembley HA9 0NB. 01-902 8876

Equity Units		£24.16	.....	—
Property Units		£13.06	.....	—
Equity Bond/Exec	£16.18	17.12	.....	—
Prop. Bond/Exec.	£17.12	18.12	.....	—
Bal. Bd./Exec/Unit	£16.95	17.94	-0.04	—
Deposit Bond	132.7	140.4	.....	—
Equity Accum.		282.1	.....	—
Property Accum.		£17.80	.....	—
Mngd. Accum.		228.4	.....	—
2nd Equity	129.9	136.4	.....	—
2nd Property	133.6	141.4	.....	—
2nd Managed	125.7	133.0	-0.3	—
2nd Deposit	116.1	122.9	.....	—
2nd Gilt	105.1	111.2	-0.8	—
2nd. American	113.2	116.6	+0.5	—
2nd Eq. Pens./Acc.	152.6	161.5	-0.1	—
2nd Prp. Pens/Acc.	150.8	159.6	.....	—
2nd Mgd. Pens/Acc.	141.6	149.8	-0.5	—
2nd Dep. Pens/Acc.	131.6	139.3	.....	—
2nd Gilt Pens/Acc.	119.2	126.1	-1.2	—
2nd Am. Pens/Acc.	124.3	131.6	+0.7	—
L & E S.I.F.	51.5	54.5	-0.5	—
L & E S.I.F. 2	35.5	38.0	.....	—

Current value September 22.

Capital Life Assurance♥
Coniston House, Chapel Ash W'ton. 0902 28511

Key Invest. Fd.		112.59	.....	—
Pacemaker Inv. Fd.		108.48	.....	—

Charterhouse Magna Gp.♥
Stephenson Hse., Brunel Centre, Bletchley,
Milton Keynes. 0908 641272

Chrthse Energy		59.9	+2.3	+2.3
Magna Bld. Soc.		154.5	.....	—
Magna Managed		167.4	+5.9	—

Chieftain Assurance Funds
11 New Street, EC2M 4TP. 01-283 3933

Managed Growth	170.19	179.15	.....	2.08
Managed Income	84.92	89.39	.....	—
International (z)	114.91	120.96	.....	—
High Income	85.47	89.97	.....	—
Income & Growth	82.39	86.73	.....	—
Basic Resources	175.24	184.46	.....	—
American (z)	126.70	133.37	.....	—
Far Eastern (z)	116.31	122.43	.....	—
Cash	109.87	115.66	.....	—

City of Westminster Assurance
Ashton House, 499, Silbury Boulevard,
Milton Keynes, MK9 2LA. 0908-606101

	Series (2)			(1) Bid
West Prop. Fund	88.3	93.0	.....	84.1
Managed Fund	210.6	221.7	.....	206.6
Equity Fund	66.9	70.5	-0.1	65.6
Farmland Fund	87.7	92.4	.....	83.3
Money Fund	146.1	153.8	.....	146.3
Gilt Fund	83.2	87.6	+0.1	83.3
Black Gold Fd.	106.6	112.2	+0.5	106.6
PULA Fund	222.5	226.9	.....	222.5
Soc. Prop. Units	75.0	78.7	.....	75.0
Pens. Gtd. Capital		150.2	.....	157.1
Pens. Gtd. Accum.		175.5	.....	175.5
Pens. Mngd. Cap.		152.4	.....	158.3
Pens. Mngd. Acc.		173.9	.....	173.9
Pens. Money Cap.		56.4	.....	57.6
Pens. Money Acc.		63.3	.....	63.6
Pens. Equity Cap.		53.8	-0.2	55.1
Pens. Equity Acc.		61.4	-0.2	60.5
Pens. Gilt Short Cap.		50.1	+0.2	52.1
Pens. Gilt Short Acc.		57.2	+0.3	57.2
Pens. Gilt Med. Cap.		51.8	.....	53.9
Pens. Gilt Med. Acc.		59.2	+0.1	59.2
Pens. Gilt Long Cap.		51.2	+0.1	53.2
Pens. Gilt Long Acc.		58.4	+0.1	58.4
NFSE Cap.		107.9	.....	—
NFSE Acc.		123.1	.....	—
Soc. First Unit Fund	180.4	189.4	.....	180.4
Fund currently closed to new investment.				
Perform Units		252.1	.....	—

Series (2) Prices are for policies issued after 1.1.1980.
Series (1) These are bid prices for earlier policies.

Commercial Union Group
St. Helen's, 1, Undershaft, EC3. 01-283 7500

Vr. An. Sept. 20		82.63	.....	—
Do. Annuity Uts.		24.66	.....	—
"Hand in Hand" Investment Bond.				
Cash	96.9	102.0	.....	—
Fixed Interest	98.4	103.6	.....	—
Property	98.3	103.5	.....	—
Nat West Unit Trust	98.8	104.0	.....	—

Confederation Life Insurance Co.
50, Chancery Lane, WC2A 1HE. 01-242 0282

♥Equity Fund	239.0	251.5	.....	—
♥Managed Fund	243.3	256.1	.....	—
♥PIP Fund		547.9	.....	—
Psnl. Pen. Mngd.	104.4	109.8	.....	—
Staffguard Man. Pen.	104.4	109.9	.....	—
Group Mngd. Pen.	270.7	275.4	.....	—
Fixed Int. Pen.	251.7	252.9	.....	—
Equity Pension	351.3	367.4	.....	—
Property Pension	242.8	249.0	.....	—

Cornhill Insurance Co. Ltd.
32, Cornhill, E.C.3. 01-626 5410

Cap. Sept. 15		158.0	.....	—
GS Spec. Sept. 15		65.0	.....	—
Man. Grwt. Sept. 20	237.5	225.5	.....	—

Credit & Commerce Insurance
120, Regent St., London W1R 5FE. 01-439 7081.

C&C Mngd. Fd.	145.0	154.0	.....	—

Crown Life,
Crown Life Hse., Woking GU21 1XW 04862 5033.

Dist. Fd. Incm.	115.3	121.3	-0.2	9.91
Mang'd Fd. Acc.	138.4	145.6	-0.2	—
Mang'd Fd. Init.	128.7	135.4	-0.2	—
Mang'd. Fd. Incm.	125.2	131.7	-0.2	8.81
Property Fd. Acc.	115.1	121.1	.....	—
Property Fd. Init.	107.3	112.9	.....	—
Property Fd. Incm.	101.9	107.2	+0.7	10.32
Fixed Int. Fd. Acc.	125.4	132.0	+0.3	—
Fixed Int. Fd. Incm.	110.3	116.1	+0.2	14.04
Equity Fd. Acc.	147.7	155.4	+0.2	—
Equity Fd. Init.	138.1	145.3	+0.2	—
Equity Fd. Incm.	137.1	144.3	+0.2	6.80
Inv. Tst. Fd. Acc.	141.2	148.6	-0.8	—
Inv. Tst. Fd. Init.	131.7	138.6	-0.8	—
Inv. Tst. Fd. Incm.	130.7	137.5	-0.8	5.88
Money Fd. Acc.	113.2	119.1	.....	—
Money Fd. Incm.	97.5	102.6	.....	16.14
Inter'l. Fd. Acc.	128.0	134.7	+0.4	—
Inter'l. Fd. Incm.	120.9	127.2	+0.4	6.81
High Income Fd.	100.6	105.8	-0.4	10.97
Invest Fd Acc.	117.4	123.5	.....	—
Crown Brt. Inv. 'A'	196.0	—	.....	—
Pens. Mixed Fd.	125.1	129.6	.....	—
Regency Fd.	97.4	102.5	.....	—
Brewin Eqty Fd.	134.3	141.3	.....	—
Brewin Fixed Int. Fd.	104.7	110.2	.....	—
EWS Coronet Fund	110.5	116.3	.....	—

Crusader Insurance Co. Ltd.
Tower Hse, 38 Trinity Sq, EC3N 4DJ 488 2323

Grth. Prop. Sept. 2	96.6	107.5	.....	—

Eagle Star Insur./Midland Assur.
1, Threadneedle St., EC2. 01-588 1212

Eagle/Mid. Units	66.6	69.1	+0.4	6.73

Equity & Law Life Ass. Soc. Ltd♥
Amersham Road, High Wycombe. 0494 33377

Equity Fd.	156.9	165.1	-0.3	—
Property Fd.	157.1	165.4	+0.1	—
Fixed Interest F.	126.2	132.8	+0.3	—
Gtd. Deposit Fd.	118.3	124.5	+0.2	—
Mixed Fd.	146.2	153.8	+0.1	—

Equity & Law (Managed Funds) Ltd.
Amersham Road, High Wycombe. 0494 33377

Ind. Pen. Equity	146.4	154.1	.....	—
Ind. Pen. Property	111.0	116.8	.....	—
Ind. Pen. Fixed Int.	115.3	121.3	.....	—
Ind. Pen. Overseas	103.1	108.5	.....	—
Ind. Pen. Cash	108.2	113.8	.....	—
Ind. Pen. Balanced	121.3	127.6	.....	—
Ind. Pen. Dep. Admin.	106.7	112.3	.....	—

Prices at Sept. 11. Next settlement date Oct. 9.
Group Pension Funds—Prices available on request.

Family Assurance Society
(See Planned Savings Group)

Assicurazioni GENERALI S.p.A.
117, Fenchurch St., EC3M 5DY. 01-488 0733

Intl. Managed Bond	112.2	118.1	.....	—

General Portfolio Life Ins. C. Ltd.♥
Crossbrook St., Cheshunt, Herts. Waltham X 31971

Portfolio Fd. Acc.		170.2	.....	—
Portfolio Fd. Init.		159.2	.....	—
Portfolio Man. Acc.	47.4	49.9	.....	—
Portfolio Man. Init.	45.4	47.8	.....	—

Gresham Life Ass. Soc. Ltd.
2 Prince of Wales Rd., B'mouth. 0202 767655

G.L. Cash Fund	116.0	122.1	.....	—
G.L. Equity Fund	131.9	138.8	.....	—
G.L. Gilt Fund	136.7	143.9	.....	—
G.L. Intl. Fund	141.1	148.5	.....	—
G.L. Ppty. Fund	121.4	127.8	.....	—

Growth & Sec. *Life* Ass. Soc. Ltd.♥
Weir Bank, Bray-on-Thames, Berks. 0628 34284.

Flexible Finance		113.9	.....	—
Landbank Secs.		55.00	.....	—
Landbank Secs. Acc.	131.8	135.2	.....	—
G. & S. Super Fd.		£8.573	.....	—

Guardian Royal Exchange
Royal Exchange, E.C.3. 01-283 7101

Guardian Assurance				
Property Bonds♥	248.2	258.5	.....	—
GRE Linked Life Assurance Limited				
Managed Initial	140.4	147.8	-0.9	—
Do. Accum.	145.5	153.2	-0.9	—
Equity Initial	155.2	163.4	-0.7	—
Do. Accum.	160.9	169.4	-0.7	—
Fixed Int. Initial	130.4	137.4	-1.7	—
Do. Accum.	135.2	142.4	-1.7	—
International Initial	116.2	122.3	+0.7	—
Do. Accum.	120.4	126.8	+0.8	—
Property Initial	105.7	111.3	.....	—
Do. Accum.	109.4	115.2	.....	—
Deposit Initial	104.7	110.3	+0.1	—
Do. Accum.	108.5	114.3	+0.1	—
GRE Pensions Management Ltd.				
Pens. Managed Initial	120.2	126.6	+0.4	—
Pens. Managed Acc.	121.8	128.3	+0.5	—
Pens. Equity Initial	121.0	127.4	+0.2	—
Pens. Equity Acc.	122.6	129.1	+0.2	—
Pens. Fxd. Int. Initial	114.4	120.5	-0.8	—
Pens. Fixed Int. Acc.	115.9	122.1	-0.8	—
Pens. Int'l Initial	106.3	111.9	+1.4	—
Pens. Int'l. Acc.	107.7	113.4	+1.5	—
Pens. Prop. Initial	97.9	103.1	.....	—
Pens. Prop. Acc.	99.0	104.3	.....	—
Pens. Depos. Initial	102.4	107.9	+0.2	—
Pens. Depos. Acc.	103.8	109.3	+0.2	—

Hambro Life Assurance Limited♥
7 Old Park Lane, London, W1 01-499 0031

Fixed Int. Dep.	148.2	156.1	.....	—
Equity	243.4	256.3	.....	—
Property	222.0	233.7	.....	—
Managed Cap.	175.2	184.5	.....	—
Managed Acc.	234.6	247.0	.....	—
Overseas	158.7	167.1	.....	—
Gilt Edged	149.3	157.2	.....	—
American Acc.	123.7	130.3	.....	—
Pen. F.I. Dep. Cap.	155.6	163.8	.....	—
Pen. F.I. Dep. Acc.	196.1	206.5	.....	—
Pen. Prop. Cap.	276.9	291.5	.....	—
Pen. Prop. Acc.	385.5	405.8	.....	—
Pen. Man. Cap.	275.6	290.2	.....	—
Pen. Man. Acc.	383.6	403.8	.....	—
Pen. Gilt Edg. Cap.	154.6	162.8	.....	—
Pen. Gilt Edg. Acc.	175.9	185.2	.....	—
Pen. Eq. Cap.	351.6	370.2	.....	—
Pen. Eq. Acc.	371.1	390.7	.....	—
Pen. B.S. Cap.	151.2	158.6	.....	—
Pen. B.S. Acc.	185.6	194.9	.....	—
Pen. D.A.F. Cap.		123.9	.....	—
Pen. D.A.F. Acc.		135.5	.....	—

Hearts of Oak Benefit Society
129, Kingsway, London, WC2B 6NF 01-404 0393

Hearts of Oak	43.6	46.3	.....	—

Hill Samuel Life Assur. Ltd.♥
NLA Twr., Addiscombe Rd., Croy. 01-686 4355

♦Property Units	223.0	234.2	.....	—
Property Series A	137.4	144.7	.....	—
Managed Units	198.7	209.2	-0.8	—
Managed Series A	116.4	122.6	-0.5	—
Managed Series C	105.0	110.6	-0.4	—
Money Units	143.1	150.7	.....	—
Money Series A	114.6	120.7	.....	—
Fixed Int. Ser. A	114.0	120.0	-0.5	—
Equity Series	115.6	121.7	-1.0	—
Pns. Managed Cap.	170.4	179.4	.....	—
Pns. Managed Acc.	194.3	204.6	.....	—
Pns. G'teed. Cap.	125.3	132.0	.....	—
Pns. G'teed. Acc.	143.0	150.5	.....	—
Pens. Equity Cap.	129.4	136.3	.....	—
Pens. Equity Acc.	140.4	147.9	.....	—
Pns. Fxd. Int. Cap.	111.8	117.1	.....	—
Pns. Fxd. Int. Acc.	121.4	127.8	.....	—
Pens. Prop. Cap.	105.1	110.7	.....	—
Pens. Prop. Acc.	114.0	120.0	.....	—

Imperial Life Ass. Co. of Canada
Imperial House, Guildford. 71255

Growth Fund Sept. 12	100.4	109.1	.....	—
Pen. Man. Fd. Sept. 12	92.8	100.9	.....	—
Unit Linked Portfolio				
Managed Fund	116.8	123.0	.....	—
Fixed Int. Fd.	117.3	123.5	.....	—
Secure Cap. Fd.	113.5	119.4	.....	—
Equity Fund	129.7	136.5	.....	—

Irish Life Assurance Co. Ltd.
Basildon House, 7/11 Moorgate, EC2. 01-606 8401.

Blue Chip Sept. 11	88.1	92.7	.....	—
Blue Chip Ser. II	114.3	120.3	.....	—
Managed Fund	287.6	302.7	.....	—
Mangd. Fd. Ser. II	115.7	121.8	.....	—
Exempt. Man. Fd.	147.6	155.4	.....	—
Prop. Md. Sept. 1	243.1	255.8	.....	—
Prop. Md. Gt. Sept. 1	282.9	297.7	.....	—
Prp. Md. Grth. Ser. II	132.8	139.7	.....	—

King & Shaxson Ltd.
52 Cornhill, EC3. 01-623 5433

Bond Fd. Exempt	£96.56	98.25	+0.05	—

Langham Life Assur. Co. Ltd.
Langham Hse., Holmbrook Dr., NW4. 01-203 5211

Harvest Pen. Fund	107.1	112.7	.....	—
Langham 'A' Plan	70.3	74.0	.....	—
♥Prop. Bond	173.9	183.0	.....	—
Wisp (SP) Man Fd	83.1	87.5	.....	—

Legal & General (Unit Assur.) Ltd.
Kingswood House, Kingswood, Tadworth, Surrey
KT20 6EU. Burgh Heath 53456

Cash Initial	105.9	111.5	.....	—
Do. Accum.	115.9	122.1	.....	—
Equity Initial	167.6	176.5	-0.6	—
Do. Accum.	183.5	193.2	-0.7	—
Fixed Initial	150.6	158.6	+0.4	—
Do. Accum.	164.8	173.5	+0.4	—
Intl. Initial	134.9	142.1	+1.5	—
Do. Accum.	145.4	153.1	+1.6	—
Managed Initial	157.0	165.3	-0.1	—
Do. Accum.	171.8	180.9	-0.1	—
Property Initial	125.2	131.8	.....	—
Do. Accum.	137.1	144.4	.....	—
Legal & General (Unit Pensions) Ltd.				
Exempt Cash Init.	119.3	125.6	.....	—
Do. Accum.	130.1	137.0	.....	—
Exempt Eqty. Init.	208.8	219.8	.....	—
Do. Accum.	227.7	239.7	.....	—
Exempt Fixed Init.	170.0	179.0	.....	—
Do. Accum.	185.4	195.2	.....	—
Exempt Mngd. Init.	195.2	205.5	.....	—
Do. Accum.	212.9	224.2	.....	—
Exempt Prop. Init.	122.5	129.0	.....	—
Do. Accum.	133.5	140.6	.....	—

Legal & General Prop. Fd. Mgrs. Ltd.
11, Queen Victoria St., EC4N 4TP. 01-248 9678

L&G Aug. 1	108.6	113.4	.....	—

Next sub. day Oct. 1.

Life Assur. Co. of Pennsylvania
8, New Rd., Chatham, Kent. Medway 812348

LACOP Units	10.69	11.25	.....	—

Lloyds Life Assurance
20, Clifton St., EC2A 4HX 01-247 7699

Multy Gwth. Aug. 6		1.72016	.....	—
Op. 8 A Prop. Sept. 18	192.9	203.1	.....	—
Op. 8'A' EQTY Sept. 18	175.6	184.9	.....	—
Op. 8 'A' HY Sept. 18	175.1	184.4	.....	—
Op. 8'A' Man. Sept. 18	193.4	203.6	.....	—
Op. 8'A' Dep. Fd Sept. 18	144.4	152.0	.....	—
Op. 8 'A' Int. Sept. 18	105.0	110.6	.....	—
Op. 8'A' InB Sept. 18	98.7	103.9	.....	—
Op. 8 InM Sept. 18	100.6	105.9	.....	—
Pens. Pr. Ac. Sept. 15	172.6	181.7	.....	—
Pens. Pr. Cap. Sept. 15	146.0	153.7	.....	—
Pens. Eq. Ac. Sept. 15	448.4	472.0	.....	—
Pens. Eq. Cap. Sept. 15	379.2	399.2	.....	—
Pens. Fxd. Ac. Sept. 15	234.7	247.1	.....	—
Pens. Fd. Cap. Sept. 15	198.5	209.0	.....	—
Pens. Mg. Ac. Sept. 15	304.6	320.7	.....	—
Pens. Mg. Cp. Sept. 15	257.6	271.2	.....	—
Pens. Dp. Ac. Sept. 15	189.2	199.2	.....	—
Pens. Dp. Cp. Sept. 15	160.0	168.5	.....	—
Britannia Funds—Series A				
Commodity Sept. 17	103.4	108.9	.....	—
Extra Income Sept. 17	98.7	103.9	.....	—
Far East Sept. 17	100.7	106.0	.....	—
Finand. Secs. Sept. 17	112.0	117.9	.....	—
Gold & Gen. Sept. 17	102.6	108.1	.....	—
Growth Sept. 17	94.7	99.7	.....	—
Inc. & Growth Sept. 17	103.6	109.1	.....	—
Intl. Growth Sept. 17	99.8	105.2	.....	—
Minerals Sept. 17	113.2	119.2	.....	—
Nd. High Inc. Sept. 17	94.9	99.9	.....	—
N. American Sept. 17	100.2	105.5	.....	—
Prop. Shrs. Sept. 17	106.4	112.1	.....	—
Sp. Situation Sept. 17	96.3	101.4	.....	—
Status Change Sept. 17	100.2	105.5	.....	—
Univ. Sept. 17	104.5	110.0	.....	—
Man. Growth Sept. 17	102.6	108.0	.....	—
Gartmore Funds—Series A				
American Sept. 23	102.9	108.4	+0.5	—
Commodity Sept. 23	109.7	115.5	+4.0	—
Extra Income Sept. 23	102.6	108.1	-1.7	—
Far Eastern Sept. 23	103.9	109.4	+3.2	—
High Income Sept. 23	99.0	104.3	-1.3	—
Income Sept. 23	109.6	115.4	+1.1	—
International Sept. 23	121.7	128.2	+5.6	—
Special Sits. Sept. 23	107.5	113.2	+5.4	—

London A'deen & Nthn. Mtl. Assur. Ltd.
129 Kingsway, London, WC2B 6NF. 01-404 0993

'Asset Builder'	50.5	53.2	.....	—

London Indemnity & Gnl. Ins. Co. Ltd
18-20, The Forbury, Reading 583511.

Money Manager	43.7	47.2	+0.1	—
M.M. Flexible	39.3	41.5	+0.1	—
Fixed Interest	39.8	42.0	-0.1	—

London Life Linked Assur. Ltd.
81 King William St., EC4N 7BD. 01-626 0511

Equity	119.4	122.9	.....	—
Fixed Interest	104.2	104.7	.....	—
Property	116.4	119.5	.....	—
Deposit	114.7	114.7	.....	—
Mixed	112.3	114.4	.....	—

The London & Manchester Ass. Gp.♥
Winslade Park, Exeter. 0392 52155

Cap. Growth Fund		280.7	.....	—
♦Flex. Exempt Fd.		159.2	.....	—
♦Exempt Prop. Fd.		136.6	.....	—
♦Expt. Inv. Tst. Fd.		261.9	.....	—
Flexible Fund		134.5	.....	—
Inv. Trust Fund		183.0	.....	—
Property Fund		103.4	.....	—
Gtd. Deposit Fd.		117.7	.....	—
Fixed Interest Fd.		102.5	.....	—

M & G Group♥
Three Quays, Tower Hill, EC3R 6BQ. 01-626 4588.

American Fd. Bond*	57.9	60.9	.....	—
Convert. Deposit*	141.6	148.8	.....	—
*Equity Bd. (Acc.)***	185.8	195.2	.....	—
Extra Yield Fd. Bd.*	88.0	92.5	.....	—
Family 1980**		260.6	.....	—
Family 82-86**		264.6	.....	—
Gilt Bond***	133.9	140.6	.....	—
High Yield Bond***	95.3	100.2	.....	—
Internatnl. Bond**	128.9	135.4	.....	—
Japan Fd. Bond*	50.1	52.7	.....	—
Managed Bond***	186.0	195.4	.....	—
Persnl. Pension***		385.4	.....	—
Property Bond**	208.9	219.5	.....	—
Recovery Fd. Bond*	94.4	99.2	.....	—

Prices *Sept. 17. **Sept. 18. ***Sept. 19

Flexible Pension Fund prices on Sept. 23				
Managed (Cap.)	123.8	130.1	+1.0	—
Do. (Accum)	130.8	137.4	+1.2	—
Equity (Cap)	115.4	121.3	-0.2	—
Do. (Accum)	121.9	128.1	-0.2	—
Property (Cap)	110.2	115.8	-0.5	—
Do. (Accum)	116.5	122.4	-5.2	—
Fixed Interest (Cap)	132.4	139.1	+0.2	—
Do. (Accum)	139.7	147.0	+0.4	—
Deposit (Cap)	104.3	109.7	+0.3	—
Do. (Accum)	110.3	115.9	+0.4	—
American (Cap)	110.2	115.8	+0.7	—
Do. (Accum)	116.4	122.4	+0.9	—
Pacific (Cap)	164.6	173.0	+11.8	—
Do. (Accum)	174.0	182.8	+12.6	—

Manufacturers Life Insurance Co.
St. George's Way, Stevenage. 0438 56101

Managed	154.9	163.0	.....	—
Property	127.7	134.4	.....	—
Equity	140.4	147.8	.....	—
Gilt Edged	166.2	174.9	.....	—
Deposit	116.5	122.6	.....	—
Investment	61.6	64.7	.....	—
International	120.4	126.7	.....	—

Merchant Investors Assurance♥
Leon House, 233 High St., Croydon 01-686 9171

Property		219.6	.....	—
Property Pens.		253.2	.....	—
Equity		80.9	.....	—
Equity Pens.		251.7	.....	—
Money Market		177.0	.....	—
Money Mkt. Pens.		248.8	.....	—
Deposit		153.5	.....	—
Deposit Pens.		187.0	.....	—
Managed		142.4	.....	—
Managed Pens.		197.7	.....	—
Intl. Equity		161.9	.....	—
Do. Pens.		186.8	.....	—
Intl. Managed		147.7	.....	—
Do. Pens.		160.7	.....	—

NEL Pensions Ltd.
Milton Court, Dorking, Surrey. 5911

Nelex Eq. Cap.	109.7	115.4	.....	—
Nelex Eq. Accum.	166.4	175.1	-0.5	—
Nelex Money Cap.	61.6	64.8	.....	—
Nelex Mon. Acc.	73.2	77.0	.....	—
Nelex Gth Inc Cap.	64.8	68.2	.....	—
Nelex Gth Inc Acc.	72.3	76.1	.....	—
Nel Mxd. Fd. Cap.	51.4	54.1	.....	—
Nel Mxd. Fd. Acc.	58.4	61.4	.....	—
Nelex Deposit Cap.	55.0	57.8	.....	—
Nelex Deposit Acc.	59.5	62.6	.....	—
Nelex Int. Fxd. Int. Cap.	47.6	50.1	.....	—
Nelex Int. Fxd. Int. Acc.	49.1	51.6	.....	—

Next sub. day Sept. 25.

NPI Pensions Management Ltd.
48 Gracechurch St., EC3P 3HH. 01-623 4200

Managed Fund	222.0	231.3	.....	—

Prices Sept. 1. Next dealing Oct. 1.

New Zealand Ins. Co. (UK) Ltd.♥
Maitland House, Southend SS1 2JS 0702 62955

Kiwi Key Inv. Plan	218.4	225.1	-0.4	—
UK Equity	96.3	101.5	+0.1	—
American	128.6	135.5	+0.5	—
Pacific	167.1	176.0	+2.6	—
Property	107.4	113.1	.....	—
Gilt	125.8	132.5	-1.0	—
High Inc. Equity	107.8	113.6	+0.3	—
High Inc. Fxd. Int.	101.3	106.7	+0.9	—
Deposit	113.3	119.2	.....	—

Norwich Union Insurance Group♥
PO Box 4, Norwich NR1 3NG. 0603 22200

Managed Fund	266.8	280.8	+0.2	—
Equity Fund	436.5	459.5	+0.7	—
Property Fund	176.7	186.0	.....	—
Fixed Int. Fund	173.0	182.1	.....	—
Deposit Fund	127.6	134.3	.....	—
Nor. Units Sept. 15		261.8	.....	—

Phoenix Assurance Co. Ltd.
4-5 King William St., EC4P 4HR. 01-626 9876

Wealth Ass.	147.9	155.8	.....	—
Eb'r. Ph. Eq. E.	117.5	124.2	.....	—

Planned Savings Group
25 Worship St., London, EC2A 2AB. 01-920 0661

1st Managed	95.0	100.7	.....	—
1st Fixed Interest	66.9	71.0	.....	—
4th Managed	52.8	56.0	.....	—
5th Managed	64.4	68.2	.....	—
Pension Managed	51.8	54.9	.....	—
Family A Managed	130.7	133.7	.....	—
Do. B Managed	73.1	74.5	.....	—
Do. C Britannia	53.0	54.0	.....	—
Do. D Fxd. Int.	82.4	84.0	.....	—
Family Capital Fund	70.8	72.2	.....	—

Premium Life Assurance Co. Ltd.
Eastchester Hse., Haywards Heath, 0444 58721

Balanced	99.0	105.0	.....	—
Deposit	97.0	103.0	.....	—
Gilt	102.0	108.0	.....	—
Natural Resources	110.0	116.0	.....	—
Property	97.0	103.0	.....	—
UK Equity	97.0	103.0	.....	—

Prop. Equity & Life Ass. Co.♥
42 Houndsditch, London EC3A 7AY 01-621 1124

R. Silk Prop. Bond		221.0	.....	—
Do. Equity Bond		94.5	+0.5	—
Flex Money Bond		172.3	+0.8	—

Property Growth Assur. Co. Ltd.♥
Leon House, Croydon CR9 1LU. 01-680 0606

Property Fund		228.5	.....	—
Property Fund (A)		225.0	.....	—
Agricultural Fund		975.9	.....	—
Agric. Fund (A)		960.2	.....	—
Abbey Nat. Fund		184.2	.....	—
Abbey *Nat.* Fd. (A)		183.9	.....	—
Investment Fund		99.2	.....	—
Investment Fund (A)		87.4	.....	—
Equity Fund		258.5	+0.9	—
Equity Fund (A)		255.8	+0.9	—
Money Fund		166.3	.....	—
Money Fund (A)		164.5	.....	—
Actuarial Fund		144.0	.....	—
Gilt-edged Fund		149.8	+0.1	—
Gilt-Edged Fd. (A)		149.8	+0.1	—
♦Retire Annuity		256.2	.....	—
♦Immed. Ann'ty		169.5	.....	—
International Fd.		128.1	.....	—
Prop. Growth Pensions & Annuities Ltd.				
All Wther Ac. Uts.	167.5	176.3	.....	—
♥Inv. Fd. Uts.		195.7	.....	—
Pension Fd. Uts.		170.3	.....	—
Conv. Pens. Fd.		190.8	.....	—
Cnv. Pns. Cap. Ut.		198.2	.....	—
Man. Pens. Fd.		198.2	.....	—
Man. Pens. Cap. Ut.		266.7	.....	—
Prop. Pens. Fd.		186.4	.....	—
Prop. Pens. Cap. Uts.		157.5	.....	—
Bldg. Soc. Pen. Ut.		170.4	.....	—
Bldg. Soc. Cap. Ut.		145.4	.....	—
Gilts Pens. Fd.		116.5	.....	—
Gilts Pens. Fd. Cap.		113.7	.....	—

Providence Capitol Life Assc. Co. Ltd.
30 Uxbridge Road, W12 8PG. 01-749 9111

Sel. Mkt. Fd. Cap.	107.8	113.9	.....	—
Sel. Mkt. Fd. *Std.*	130.4	137.7	.....	—
Pension Equity	171.9	177.2	.....	—
Pension Fxd. Int.	146.0	150.5	.....	—
Deposit Fd. Acc.	56.8	59.9	.....	—
Equity Fd. Cap.	53.6	56.5	.....	—
Equity Fd. Acc.	60.1	63.4	.....	—
Fxd. Int. Cap.	50.1	52.8	.....	—
Fxd. Int. Acc.	55.6	58.6	.....	—
Intnl. Cap.	40.2	42.4	.....	—
Intnl. Acc.	46.3	48.8	.....	—
Managed Fd. Cap.	51.7	54.6	.....	—
Managed Fd. Acc.	57.6	60.7	.....	—
Property Fd. Cap.	69.7	73.5	.....	—
Property Fd. Acc.	75.4	79.5	.....	—

Provincial Life Assurance Co. Ltd.
222 Bishopsgate, EC2. 01-247 6533

Prov. Managed Fd.	151.7	159.7	.....	—
Prov. Cash Fd.	124.9	131.5	.....	—
Gilt Fund	136.8	144.1	+0.8	—
Property Fund	129.8	136.7	.....	—
Equity Fund	140.8	148.3	.....	—
Fxd. Int. Fund	114.7	120.8	.....	—

Prudential Pensions Limited♦
Holborn Bars, EC1N 2NH. 01-405 9222

Equity Fd. Sep. 19	£35.96	37.07	.....	—
Fixed Int. Sept. 19	£24.00	24.32	.....	—
Prop. Fd. Sept. 19	£40.83	42.09	.....	—

Reliance *Mutual*
Tunbridge Wells, Kent. 0892 22271

Rel. Prop. Bds.		292.3	.....	—

Rothschild Asset Management
St. Swithins Lane, London EC4. 01-626 4356

N.C. Prop.	156.2	166.2	.....	—

Next sub. period Sept. 30/Oct. 15

Royal Insurance Group
New Hall Place, Liverpool. 051-227 4422

Royal Shield Fd.	192.7	203.9	+0.9	—

Save & Prosper Group♥
4, Gt. St. Helen's, Lndn., EC3P 3EP. 01-554 8899

Bal. Inv. Fd.	161.9	171.4	-0.5	—
Property Fd.*	205.2	217.2	+4.0	—
Gilt Fd.	143.7	152.1	+0.4	—
Deposit Fd.†	147.8	156.5	+0.4	—
Comp. Pens. Fd.†	288.5	305.3	.....	—
Equity Pens. Fd.	282.4	298.9	-0.4	—
Prop. Pens. Fd.*	353.3	373.9	+5.1	—
Gilt Pens. Fd.	121.7	128.8	+0.3	—
Depos. Pens. Fd.†	130.3	137.9	.....	—

*Prices on Sept. 24.
†Weekly Dealings.

Schroder Life Group♥
Enterprise House, Portsmouth. 0705 27733

Equity	303.0	319.0	-0.7	—
Fixed Int.	163.8	172.5	.....	—
Managed	173.1	182.3	-0.2	—
Money	126.5	133.3	+0.1	—
Overseas	95.6	100.8	+0.2	—
Property	203.3	214.1	-0.1	—
CCM Vanguard	114.2	120.3	-0.1	—
K & S Govt. Secs.	141.0	148.5	+0.1	—
Income Distrib.	103.1	108.6	-0.1	—
Income Accum.	109.0	114.8	-0.1	—
B.S. Pen. Cap.	149.6	157.2	.....	—
B.S. Pen. Acc.	174.5	183.3	.....	—
Equity Pension Cap.	129.3	136.2	.....	—
Equity Pension Acc.	139.1	146.5	.....	—
Mngd. Pen. Cap.	276.2	290.8	.....	—
Mngd. Pen. Acc.	351.7	370.3	.....	—
F. Int. Pen. Cap.	113.6	119.7	.....	—
F. Int. Pen. Acc.	122.8	129.3	.....	—
Money Pen. Cap.	117.6	123.9	.....	—
Money Pen. Acc.	126.9	133.7	.....	—
Prop. Pen. Cap.	147.1	155.0	.....	—
Prop. Pen. Acc.	158.4	166.8	.....	—

Prices are for Life Series 4 Sept. 23.
Pensions Series B, Sept. 16. Other prices on request.

FT SHARE INFORMATION SERVICE

BRITISH FUNDS

"Shorts" (Lives up to Five Years)

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+ or −	Yield Int.	Red.
100⅛	99⅛	Exchequer 13pc 1980‡‡	99⅞	.....	13.06	14.76
99⅞	96¾	Treasury 11½pc 1981‡‡	99⅛	.....	11.60	13.99
96¼	90⅜	Treasury 3½pc 1979-81	96¼	+⅛	3.63	13.41
98⅞	93⅜	Treasury 9¾pc 1981‡‡	98⅞xd	+1/16	9.94	13.81
96⅞	91¼	Exch. 8¼pc 1981	96⅜	+⅛	8.56	13.61
96⅞	92¼	Exch. 9½pc 1981	96⅞	+⅛	9.80	13.37
94	85½	Exch. 3pc 1981	93⅝	.....	3.20	10.52
99⅓	96½	Treas. Variable '81§§	99	.....	14.78	15.28
99⅞	95⅞	Exch. 12¾pc 1981‡‡	99⅝	+⅛	12.79	12.97
95⅝	88½	Treas. 8½pc '80-82‡‡	95	+¼	8.94	12.67
91¾	82½	Treasury 3pc '82‡‡	91⅝	.....	3.27	9.52
102⅞	96⅝	Treasury 14pc '82‡‡	101⅞	+⅛	13.74	12.59
98⅞	94¼	Treas. Variable '82§§	97¼	.....	14.97	16.87
93¼	86⅛	Treasury 8¼pc '82	92¾	+¼	8.89	12.89
93⅞	86⅓	Exch. 9¾pc 1982	93⅝	+⅛	10.01	13.13
93	85	Exch. 8¾pc 1983	92½	+¼	9.45	12.58
83⅞	76½	Exch. 3pc 1983	83⅜	.....	3.58	10.82
83⅞	82	Exch. 3pc 1983 A●	83¼	.....	3.60	11.89
98½	90⅞	Treasury 12pc 1983‡‡	98	+¼	12.24	12.99
96½	90⅜	Treas. Variable '83§§	96	.....	15.24	16.51
93⅛	84½	Treasury 9¼pc '83	92¼	+¼	10.02	12.57
102⅞	94¼	Exch. 13½pc '83	100½	+¼	13.43	13.24
93¾	84½	Exch. 10pc 1983	92⅞	+¼	10.82	12.93
84¾	76½	Funding 5½pc '82-84‡‡	84¼	+¼	6.52	11.31
97⅞	87¾	Exch. 11¼pc 1984	95⅛	+¼	11.82	13.03
104⅞	94½	Exchequer 14pc 1984	102⅞	+¼	13.67	13.13
76⅝	68¼	Exch. 3pc 1984	76½	+¼	3.92	10.80
99¾	88⅝	Treasury 12pc 1984	97⅝xd	+¼	12.29	12.78
109⅛	98	Treasury 15pc 1985	107⅞	+½	13.96	12.73
71¾	69	Treasury 3pc 1985	71¼	+¼	4.21	11.06

Five to Fifteen Years

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+ or −	Yield Int.	Red.
102⅝	90⅛	Exch. 12¼pc 1985	102⅓	+⅛	12.50	12.67
100⅝	95⅝	Exch. 12¼pc 1985 'A'	100⅛	+⅛	12.52	12.83
88½	79¾	Treasury 8½pc '84-86‡‡	87⅜	−⅛	9.93	12.88
103¾	91	Exch. 13¼pc 1987	103	.....	13.16	13.06
81½	70⅞	Funding 6½pc '85-87‡‡	80⅝	.....	8.36	11.37
97	91½	Treas. 12pc 1987	93	+⅛	12.73	13.36
82½	72¼	Treasury 7¾pc '85-88‡‡	79⅝	.....	9.92	12.36
64	54⅞	Transport 3pc '78-88	62⅞	.....	4.83	10.18
98	85	Treasury 11½pc 1989	92⅞	+¼	12.52	13.11
68	56⅝	Treasury 5pc '86-89	64⅝xd	.....	7.73	11.35
103½	89⅞	Treasury 13pc 1990‡‡	100⅛	.....	13.24	13.31
80⅝	69⅞	Treasury 8¼pc '87-90‡‡	79¼	.....	10.71	12.33
95⅛	82½	Treasury 11¾pc 1991	92½	−⅛	13.05	13.54
50¼	44¼	Treas. 11¾pc 91A(£50pd)	45⅝	−⅛	13.05	13.61
68⅛	57½	Funding 5¾pc '87-91‡‡	63⅞xd	.....	8.98	11.81
92¾	78¼	Exch. 11pc 1991	85⅜xd	.....	12.74	13.42
99⅞	87½	Treasury 12¾pc '92‡‡	98	.....	13.31	13.46
86⅓	74⅓	Treasury 10pc 1992	82⅓	.....	12.27	13.17
100⅝	84¾	Exch. 12¼pc '92	93⅝	.....	13.22	13.50
103⅞	94¼	Exchequer 13½pc '92	98⅞xd	+⅛	13.66	13.71
98⅞	85½	Treasury 12½pc '93‡‡	96½	.....	13.29	13.47
66¼	54⅝	Funding 6pc 1993‡‡	62	.....	9.70	11.82
107¼	93½	Treasury 13¾pc 1993‡‡	104¾	−⅛	13.73	13.71
115	96⅝	Treasury 14½pc '94‡‡	105¾	−⅛	13.83	13.70
103⅝	96	Exchequer 13½pc 1994	97⅞xd	+⅛	13.62	13.67
100½	85½	Exch. 12½pc 1994	94¼	.....	13.35	13.52
81¼	69⅝	Treasury 9pc '94‡‡	79½	.....	11.80	12.62
95½	82	Treasury 12pc '95	93⅛	.....	13.16	13.39
50	42⅞	Gas 3pc '90/95	48⅞	.....	6.29	9.82
85⅛	73¼	Exch. 10¼pc 1995	82⅞	.....	12.64	13.18

Over Fifteen Years

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+ or −	Yield Int.	Red.
102½	87½	Treasury 12¾pc '95‡‡	100⅛	.....	15.94	15.43
106⅞	94⅛	Treas. 14pc '96	104⅝	.....	13.70	13.63
81½	67¾	Treasury 9pc '92/96‡‡	75⅞	.....	11.90	12.62
118⅝	99½	Treasury 15¼pc '96‡‡	115⅜	.....	13.94	13.76
105⅞	99⅛	Exchequer 13¼pc '96‡‡	103¼	−⅛	13.46	13.47
49¾	41⅞	Redemption 3pc 1986-96	47⅝xd	.....	6.29	9.37
104	89	Treasury 13¼pc '97‡‡	101	.....	13.42	13.43
87⅓	74⅜	Exchequer 10½pc 1997	83⅞	+¼	12.66	13.04
80	65⅞	Treasury 8¾pc 1997‡‡	74½	.....	11.63	12.48
66½	54⅞	Treasury 6¾pc '95-98‡‡	63¾	.....	10.87	11.96
121¼	101	Treas. 15½pc '98‡‡	111½xd	.....	13.86	13.73
99⅛	83⅝	Exch. 12pc 1998	95	+¼	13.21	13.33
50	49	Do. A (£50 pd.)●	49¼	+¼	13.09	13.35
81½	69¾	Treasury 9½pc 1999‡‡	75¼	+⅛	12.19	12.60
101¼	82⅞	Exch. 12¼pc 1999	92½xd	−⅛	13.23	13.35
88½	75⅝	Treasury 10½pc 1999	85⅛	+⅛	12.73	13.02
103¾	94⅞	Treas. 13pc 2000	99¼	.....	13.36	13.39
110⅝	94⅛	Treas. 14pc '98-01	107⅞	.....	13.53	13.52
96⅜	81⅓	Exch. 12pc '99-02	93½	.....	13.12	13.28
107¼	91⅓	Treas. 13¾pc 2000-03	104⅝	.....	13.47	13.43
97	78⅞	Treasury 11½pc '01-04	88⅞	.....	12.96	13.06
40¼	34⅜	Funding 3½pc '99-04	39⅞	.....	8.93	10.49
102	86⅝	Treasury 12½pc '03-05	99¼	+⅛	13.16	13.18
72⅞	59¾	Treasury 8pc '02-06‡‡	67⅞xd	.....	11.76	12.05
95⅛	80¼	Treasury 11¾pc 03-07	92⅝	.....	12.97	13.01
109	94½	Treas. 13½pc '04-08	101⅞xd	+⅛	13.25	13.25
53¼	42⅞	Treasury 5½pc '08-12‡‡	49½	.....	11.15	11.58
68⅝	57½	Treasury 7¾pc '12-15‡‡	66⅝	+⅛	11.85	11.96
100½	85¼	Exch. 12pc '13-'17	98	.....	12.63	12.68

Undated

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+ or −	Yield Int.	Red.
33⅞	29	Consols 4pc	33	.....	12.34	—
33¾	28⅞	War Loan 3½pc‡‡	32⅝	−⅛	11.10	—
37¾	32¼	Conv. 3½pc '61 Aft.	35xd	−⅛	9.98	—
25¾	21⅝	Treasury 3pc 66 Aft	24⅝xd	+⅛	12.26	—
22⅞	19½	Consols 2½pc	21⅜xd	−⅛	11.66	—
22	17⅞	Treasury 2½pc	20¼xd	−⅛	12.32	—

INTERNATIONAL BANK

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+ or −	Yield Int.	Red.
87½	78	5pc Stock '77-82	85¼	+⅛	5.83	13.44

CORPORATION LOANS

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+ or −	Yield Int.	Red.
97½	83⅝	Bath 11¾pc 1985	97⅛	.....	12.13	13.22
98⅝	89½	Birm'ham 12½pc 1985	97	.....	12.89	13.35
99½	96¾	Bristol 13¾pc 1981	99½xd	.....	13.82	14.89
102½	90	Burnley 13pc 1987	102¼	.....	13.24	13.40
95¾	82⅞	Cardiff 11pc 1986	95½	.....	12.10	13.20
98¾	93	G.L.C. 12½pc '82	97⅞	.....	12.79	14.02
98¾	90⅞	Do. 12½pc 1983	97¼xd	.....	12.85	13.67
92¼	84¾	Glasgow 9¼pc '80-82	91½	.....	10.11	14.01
75¾	64½	Herts 6½pc 1985-87	75xd	.....	9.12	12.49
98½	81¾	Liverpool 9¾pc '80-84	89½	.....	10.90	13.47
27	24	Do. 3½pc Irred.	26xd	.....	13.65	—
100¼	92¼	Lon. Corp. 13¾pc '83	98¼	.....	13.41	13.71
94	79¾	Do. 9½pc '84-85	89½xd	.....	10.31	12.03
80½	71	L.C.C. 5½pc '82-84	80	.....	6.88	12.20
70¼	60½	Do. 5½pc '85-87	70	.....	8.04	12.59
69½	60¼	Do 6¾pc '88-90	69¼	.....	9.94	12.53
24	21	Do. 3pc '20 Aft.	23½	−¼	13.07	—
97½	87¾	Sunderland 12¾pc 1984	96	.....	12.76	13.48

COMMONWEALTH AND AFRICAN LOANS

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+ or −	Yield Int.	Red.
91	82¼	Aust. 5½pc '81-82	88¾xd	+¼	6.19	13.88
85¾	72½	Do. 6pc 1981-83	84	+¼	7.30	13.02
67	58	N.Z. 7¼pc 1988-92	65¾	+¼	11.31	13.38
81½	72	Do. 7½pc '83-86	80¾	+¼	9.53	12.85
96¾	88	Sth. Africa 9½pc '79-81	96¾	+½	10.22	16.59
160	95	S. Rhod. 2½pc Non-Ass.	97	+1	—	30.33
169	133	Do. 6pc '78-81 N.-As.	140	+1	—	31.39

LOANS

Public Board and Ind.

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+ or −	Yield Int.	Red.
64½	56½	Agric. Mt. 5pc '59-89	62½	.....	8.15	12.32
83½	73½	Alcan 10½pc '89-94	82½	−½	14.48	15.48
29¾	25	Met. Wtr. 3pc 'B'	29	−¼	10.41	12.44
104	89	U.S.M.C. 9pc 1982	104	.....	8.87	—
92	85½	Do. without Warnts.	91	.....	10.21	14.00

Financial

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+ or −	Yield Int.	Red.
99⅛	96½	FFI 13pc 1981	98⅞	.....	13.15	15.90
101½	93½	Do. 14pc '83	100¼	−½	13.97	13.87
88	79½	FFI(UK Fal5½pcDb. '80-2	87xd	.....	6.31	12.95
82½	71½	Do. 6¼pcDb. '81-84	82	.....	7.85	12.70
92	80½	Do. 10½pc Uns.Ln. '86	91	.....	11.75	13.40
91½	77	Do. 11pc Uns.Ln. '88	91½	.....	12.32	13.00
93½	82	Do. 11¾pc Uns.Ln. '90	93	.....	12.98	13.60
101	84½	Do. 12½pc Un. Ln. 1992	93xd	−½	13.44	13.70
66½	56	Do. 7¼pcADeb. '89-92	65½	.....	11.51	13.50
66½	51½	Do. 7½pcADeb. '91-94	61½xd	.....	11.78	13.40
76½	64½	Do. 9pc 'A' '91-94	71½xd	.....	12.58	13.60
71½	61	Do. 8¾pcLn. '92-97	69½	.....	12.95	13.60

FOREIGN BONDS & RAILS

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+ or −	Div. % Gross	Red. Yield
82	43	Antofagasta Rly	65	.....	—	—
55	59	Do. 5pc Pref.	55	.....	—	—
98	98	Chilean Mixed	98	.....	3	f3.10
58	19	Chinese 4½pc 1898	19	.....	—	—
45	17	Do. 5pc 1912	17	.....	—	—
24	11½	Do. 5pc 1913	12	.....	—	—
24	13	Do. 5pc '25 Boxer	13	.....	—	—
96¾	92½	Denmark 13pc 2005	94¾	.....	13	13.76
35	28½	Greek 7pc Ass.	35	.....	3½	f10.17
35	31	Do. 6pc 28 Stb. Ass.	32	.....	3	f9.75
34	30	Do 4pc Mixed Ass.	30	.....	2	f6.87
53	51	Hung. '24 Ass.	52	.....	2¾	f5.32
65	50	Iceland 6½pc '83-88	63	.....	6½	14.78
89¾	79	Ireland 7½pc '81-83	88	+¼	7½	13.44
87¾	71¼	Do. 9¾pc '91-96	78¼xd	+¼	9¾	13.11
235	200	Japan 4pc '10 Ass	215	.....	—	—
69	56	Do. 6pc '83-88	68	.....	6	12.14
155	155	Peru Ass. 2007	155	.....	5.22	f3.39
$95	$90	S.G.I. 6½pc 1980	$95	.....	6½	f6.84
$94½	$81	Turin 9pc 1991	$81	.....	9	f11.11
DM91	DM90	Turin 6½pc 1984	DM90	.....	6½	9.50
96	96	Uruguay 3½pc	96	.....	3½	3.90

AMERICANS

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+ or −	Div. Gross	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's
35⅞	16⅝	ASA	25⅞	+2⅞	$3.00	—	3.8
34	27½	AMF 5% Conv. '87	27½xd	.....	5%	—	f11.4
22⅞	15⅝	Abbott Labs.‖	22⅞	.....	$1.20	—	2.4
25¼	17½	Amax $1	21⅛	+⅝	$2.40	—	5.1
16	11½	Amer. Express $0.60	15	+¼	$2.0	—	5.6
24⅝	12⅞	Amer. Medical Intl. $1.	24	−¼	80c	—	1.5
24⅞	13⅝	Asarco Inc. ‖	21¾	+1⅝	$1.55	—	3.2
17¾	11⅞	Baker Intnl. Corp. $1	17	−¼	h40c	—	1.1
24½	16¼	Bankers N.Y. $10	24¼	−¼	$3.30	—	6.1
10⅝	650p	Barnes Grp. $6⅔	10⅝	+½	80c	—	3.4
24⅓	16⅝	Bendix Corp. $5	23⅞xd	+2⅛	$2.84	—	5.3
11¾	830p	Beth Steel $8	10⅝	+⅛	$1.60	—	6.8
11	597p	Brown'g Fer. c16⅔	11xd	+½	70c	—	2.9
675p	453p	Brunswick Corpn.‖	655p	+19	90c	—	6.2
37⅞	26⅓	Burroughs Corp. $5	28¾	−⅝	$2.60	—	4.0
24	18¾	CBS $2.50	22⅞	−¼	$2.80	—	5.5
31⅝	25	C.P.C. $½	30⅝	−⅝	$3.40	—	5.0
25¼	19¼	Caterpillar‖	24⅛	.....	$2.40	—	4.5
20	15⅝	Chase M'htn. $12.5	18	−¼	$2.80	—	7.0
13¼	899p	Chesebrough $1	13	+⅜	$1.28	—	4.4
485p	247p	Chrysler $6¼	431p	+3	—	—	—
10⅞	781p	Citicorp $4	925p	−9	$1.42	—	6.9
12½	665p	City Inv. $1.25	11½	+⅛	$1.50	—	5.9
19⅝	10	Do. Cm. Pr. B $1	17¼	−1¼	$2.00	—	5.2
717p	519p	Colgate-P. $1	631p	−13	$1.08	—	7.1
23½	10⅜	Colt Inds. $1	19⅝	−⅜	$2.90	—	6.7
25⅝	15½	Conoco $5	22¼	.....	$2.2	—	4.4
13⅓	[illegible]	Cont. Illinois $10	12⅜	+⅛	$1.80	—	6.5
23⅛	15⅛	Crown Zell. $5	20⅞	−¼	$2.30	—	4.9
14¼	972p	Eaton Crp. $0.50	14	−¼	$1.72	—	5.5
24¼	11⅓	Esmark $1	24⅛	−⅛	ɸ$1.34	—	3.5
30½	23⅓	Exxon ‖	25⅝	.....	$5.60	—	8.8
420p	280p	Firestone Tire ‖	374p	−7	—	—	—
695p	529p	First Chicago $5	634p	−3	$1.20	—	3.5
22¼	11	Fluor Corp. $⅝	21⅞	−⅜	80c	—	1.7
15⅝	940p	Ford Motor $2	12¾	+⅜	$1.20	—	4.2
28½	11⅓	GATX $⅝	15⅝	+¾	$2.20	—	6.3
24¼	20	Gen. Elect. $2½	23⅓	+⅜	$3.00	—	5.8
12⅞	868p	Gillette $1	12⅞	.....	$1.90	—	6.9
43½	29¼	Honeywell $1.50	40⅞	+2⅛	$3.00	—	3.3
16	716p	Houston Oil $0.10	15	+1	80c	—	2.2
19	570p	Hutton (E. F.) $1	17¾	−½	80c	—	2.0
31⅝	22⅝	I.B.M. Corp. $1.25	23⅝xd	+⅜	$3.44	—	5.4
28¼	20⅝	Ingersoll-R $2	28¼	+½	$3.32	—	5.2
10	454p	I. U. International‖	940p	+12	ɸ$1.10	—	5.2
12⅞	776p	Kaiser Al. $⅓	12⅛	−¼	$1.20	—	4.4
524p	290p	Lionel Corp. $0.10	524p	+13	20c	—	1.7
25⅞	15⅜	Louisiana Land $0.15	21½	+⅜	$1.80	—	3.8
15	12	Manf. Han. US$7.50	13¾	.....	$2.52	—	8.3
15⅜	515p	Merrill Lynch $1	15⅝	+½	$1.12	—	3.3
21⅞	18⅛	Morgan (JP) US$2.5	18¾xd	.....	$2.80	—	6.7
749p	492p	Norton Simon Inc. $1	665p	−19	$1.04	—	7.0
11⅛	895p	Owens-Ill. $3.125	10¼	−⅛	$1.40	—	6.1
14⅝	10⅞	Quaker Oats US$5	12⅞xd	−⅜	$1.60	—	5.6
33	24⅞	Reliance $0.25	32⅝	.....	$3.00	—	4.2
13¼	6	Rep. N.Y. Corp. $5	13⅛	−½	$0.84	—	2.9
839p	651p	Rexnord $5	769p	−3	$1.04	—	6.1
11⅓	815p	Richdsn.-Mrrll. $1¼	11½	−¼	$1.52	—	5.3
14⅞	10⅞	Rockwell Intl. $1	14	−⅜	h$1.40	—	4.5
444p	234p	Saul (B. F.) $1	437p	+4	—	—	—
18⅝	11⅓	Shell Oil $1	18⅛xd	+1⅝	h$1.40	—	3.5
488p	273p	Singer ($10)	478p	−7	40c	—	3.8
26½	19¼	Sperry Corp. $0.50	22⅓	+⅛	$1.76	—	3.5
21¼	15⅓	TRW Inc. $1¼	21¼	+½	$2.20	—	4.7
19¼	14⅞	Tenneco $5	18⅝	.....	$2.40	—	5.9
154	125	Do. 10% Ln. Stk. 91-95	147	.....	10%	—	F6.9
13¼	736p	Tesoro Pt. US$0.16⅔	951p	−9	30c	—	1.4
18	12¼	Texaco $6.25	14⅓	+⅓	$2.40	—	7.4
26	17⅛	Time Inc. $1	25⅛xd	−⅜	$1.66	—	2.9
854p	665p	Transamerica $1	821p	−9	$1.38	—	7.0
20⅞	18	Union Carbide $1	20⅞	+⅞	$3.20	—	6.9
23¼	17⅛	Utd. Tech. $US5	21⅞	.....	$2.20	—	4.5
10½	726p	U.S. Steel $1	936p	−24	$1.60	—	7.7
12¼	967p	Woolworths $3½	11⅛	+⅛	$1.80	—	7.3
29⅞	21⅞	Xerox Corp. $1	27⅝	+⅜	$2.60	—	4.5
25⅝	11¼	Zapata Corp. 25c	25⅝	+½	48c	—	0.9

CANADIANS

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+ or −	Div. Gross	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's
11⅛	865p	Bk. Montreal $2	10⅞	.....	$1.56	—	5.4
12⅛	870p	Bk. Nova Scot. $1	11⅛	.....	$1.60	—	5.2
800p	670p	Bell Canada $8⅓	670pxd	−15	$1.64	—	9.3
954p	435p	Bow Valley‖	858p	+84	10c	—	0.4
13⅞	820p	Brascan‖	13⅛	−⅛	ɸ$1.20	—	3.5
10⅞	860p	Can. Imp. Bk. $2	980p	.....	$1.80	—	6.9
18⅞	13⅛	Can. Pacific $5	18⅞	.....	$1.80	—	3.7
34	27⅞	Do. 4pc Deb. £100	30	.....	4%	—	13.3
11⅓	656p	Can. P. Ent.‖	10¼	.....	$1.00	—	3.5
14¼	800p	Gulf Can.‖	10	+⅜	44c	—	1.7
810p	570p	Hawker Sid. Can.‖	810p	+50	96c	—	4.5
22⅛	12¾	Hollinger $5	19½	+½	s$2.20	—	4.3
11⅞	850p	Hudson's Bay ‖	880pxd	.....	ɸ$1.20	—	5.2
14¼	925p	Hud.B.Oil G. $2½	11	−⅛	h57½	—	2.0
21⅞	13⅛	Imperial Oil‖	13¾	+⅛	$1.40	—	3.8
14	855p	Inco‖	10⅝	−⅛	72c	—	2.6
565p	425p	Inl. Nat. Gas $1	510p	−25	$1.00	—	7.4
495p	250p	Massey Ferg.‖	275p	−10	—	—	—
200p	100p	Place Gas $1	100p	.....	—	—	—
14⅞	10½	Rio Algom	13⅝	.....	$1.50	—	4.2
*19¾	14¼	Royal Bk. Can. $2	19⅜xr	.....	$2.56	—	5.0
25⅞	15⅞	Seagram Co. C$1	24½	−1½	$US1.10	—	2.0
12	890p	Tor. Dom. Bk. $1	11	.....	$1.44	—	4.9
10½	790p	Trans Can. Pipe	790p	−20	$1.16	—	5.6

BANKS AND HIRE PURCHASE

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or −	Div. Net	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's	P/E
245	202	ANZ $A1	225	.....	†Q22c	3.7	5.0	5.4
280	183	Alexanders D. £1	270	+4	16.0	—	8.5	—
£76½	£56	Algemene Fl.100	£68¾	.....	†Q25%	1.9	7.3	7.4
425	290	Allen Harvey £1	385xd	.....	21.5	—	8.0	—
128	96	Allied Irish	123	+1	Q8.93	—	6.4	—
17	13	Ansbacher (H.) 5p	14½	.....	0.15	—	1.5	—
247	180	Arbuthnot L. £1	238	−2	11.0	—	6.6	—
360	280	Bk. Ireland £1	345	.....	Q23.51	—	6.0	—
*10	5	Bk. Leumi $0.1	8	.....	ɸQ14%	—	7.1	—
160	100	Bk. Leumi (UK) £1	160	.....	†8.57	—	7.6	—
178	135	Bk. N.S.W. $A1	163	.....	Q18c	3.0	5.6	5.9
305	235	Bank Scotland £1	291	+3	†15.0	5.1	7.6	3.6
448	327	Barclays £1	430	−2	M18.5	5.9	6.1	3.4
420	274	Brown Shipley £1	420	.....	13.0	—	4.4	—
393	263	Cater Ryder £1	380	+2	21.0	—	7.9	—
*74	30	Clive Dis'nt 20p	53	.....	2.72	—	5.7	—
156	124	Com'l Aus. ($A1)	132	.....	Q20c	ɸ	7.8	ɸ
935	725	Com'zbk DM 10	745	−35	Q26.56%	—	8.9	—
£105⅛	800	C'hgn. Hbk. Kr100	950	.....	Q13%	—	10.6	—
£19¼	£14⅜	Cred. France F75	£15¾	.....	Q12.5%	—	6.4	—
18	9	Dawes (G. R.)	17	.....	—	—	—	—
£71¼	£53½	Deutsche Bank DM50	£66½	−1½	Q28.12%	—	4.9	—
92	52	F. C. Finance	85	.....	2.2	1.3	3.7	(25.0)
29	9¼	First Nat. 10p	27½	+1	—	—	—	1.6
5	1½	Do. Wrrts. 75-83	5	.....	—	—	—	—
300	192	Gerrard Natnl.	298	+1	11.5	—	5.5	—
225	155	Gillett Bros. £1	208	.....	10.5	—	7.2	—
28½	21½	Goode D't Mry. 5p	27	.....	0.75	—	4.0	—
150	116	Grindlays	140	+2	†3.75	5.7	3.8	4.9
148	86	Guinness Peat	125xd	−1	7.0	—	8.0	—
566	278	Hambros	562	+2	16.5	—	4.2	—
149	73	Hill Samuel	145	.....	5.85	—	5.8	—
160	101	Hong Shng. $2.50	154xd	+1	tQ54c	—	2.6	—
86	54	Jessel Toynbee	85	+2	4.62	—	7.8	—
200	120	Joseph (Leo) £1	180	.....	9.5	—	7.5	—
98	55	Keyser Ullmann	89	−2	ɸ1.05	—	1.7	—
94	60	King & Shax 20p	92	+1	5.0	—	7.8	—
230	120	Kleinwort B.L.	230	+8	†6.5	—	4.1	—
356	277	Lloyds £1	336	+1	†14.25	7.4	6.1	2.7
60	32	Manson Fin. 20p	56	.....	ɸ3.5	1.2	8.9	12.9
230	145	Mercury Secs	226	.....	6.5	—	4.1	—
384	308	Midland £1	356	+1	20.0	5.3	8.0	3.1
£81	£67½	Do. 7½% 83-93	£73½	−½	Q7½%	32.7	f10.6	—
£85¼	£74¼	Do. 10¼% 93-98	£84	.....	Q10¼%	32.7	f13.7	—
65½	37½	Minster Assets	63½	.....	3.9	1.3	8.8	12.4
145	113	Nat. Bk. Aust. $A1	136	.....	tQ16c	2.7	6.0	6.2
408	305	Nat. West. £1	396	+1	†17.5	7.1	6.3	2.4
£70	£46	Ottoman Bank £20	£54	.....	Q31%	—	5.8	—
96	75	Royal Bk. of Scot.	96	.....	†3.92	6.4	5.8	3.5
320	197	Schroders £1	318xd	−2	h8.5	—	3.8	—
280	200	Seccombe MC £1	250	.....	16.0	—	9.1	—
£13⅝	£10⅜	Sec. Pacific Corp.	£12½	.....	Q$2.0	—	7.2	—
158	95	Smith St. Aub.	158	+2	8.0	—	7.2	—
635	465	Stand'd Chart £1	598xd	−2	†26.0	3.3	6.2	6.1
$27½	$13	Trade Dev. $1.50	$27½	.....	Q75c	—	2.8	—
525	345	Union Disc £1	520	.....	20.0	0.5	5.5	—
69	35	U.D.T.	40	−2	—	—	—	7.8
£12½	£10	Wells Fargo $5	£11	.....	Q$1.92	—	7.6	—
£74	£46	Westacl/Utr. Fl.50	£57¾	.....	Q48%	2.9	0.4	—
76	62	Wintrust 20p	68	.....	2.92	—	6.1	—

Hire Purchase, etc.

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or −	Div. Net	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's	P/E
36	26½	Cattle's (Hdgs) 10p	32	−½	2.1	1.0	9.4	(15.5)
£39¾	£29¾	Cie B'cre Fr.100	£37½	.....	Q15%	—	4.3	—
*174	117	Lloyds & Scot. 20p	165	.....	5.27	2.4	4.6	13.1
43	32	Lnd. Scot. Fin. 10p	40	.....	†h1.76	2.0	6.3	7.8
*21	12¾	Moorgate Merc. 10p	19½	.....	†0.9	2.4	6.6	(5.9)
149	91	Prov. Financial	141xd	.....	†6.45	2.2	6.5	9.0
18	11	Strlg. Credit 10p	15	+1	h0.96	2.3	9.5	(6.0)
*14	6½	Sturla Hldgs. 10p	11	−½	—	—	—	ɸ
52	32	Wagon Finance	39xd	.....	2.31	1.3	8.5	12.9

BEERS, WINES AND SPIRITS

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or −	Div. Net	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's	P/E
89	68	Allied Brews.	83	−1	5.0	2.1	8.8	(6.5)
51	35	Amal. Dist. Pr. 10p	43	.....	1.0	1.3	3.3	(31.1)
243	188	Bass	232	−1	†7.8	3.0	4.8	7.9
39	24	Belhaven Brewery	34	.....	—	—	—	29.8
197	158	Bell Arthur 50p	192	−1	†5.29	4.4	4.2	6.5
98	68	Boddingtons	96	.....	†h2.5	2.7	3.8	14.1
104	78	Border Brew's	100	.....	4.5	2.5	6.4	8.0
150	123	Brown (Matthew)	123	.....	5.03	2.8	5.7	8.2
51	46½	Buckley's Brew.	47	.....	2.35	2.3	7.1	8.3
198	142	Bulmer (H.P.)	184	.....	8.54	2.2	6.6	(8.0)
258	240	Burtonwood	256	.....	4.51	6.1	2.5	9.3
84	56	City Lon. Def.	83	.....	H4.4	1.1	7.6	17.6
154	130	Clark (Matthew)	132xd	.....	7.5	2.7	8.1	6.6
235	184	Distillers 50p	215	+2	10.75	3.0	7.0	5.6
56	49	Gordon (L.) 10p	42	.....	1.5	4.6	5.2	5.2
225	157	Greenall Whitley	204	−2	†6.25	3.4	4.0	10.8
222	164	Greene King	222	.....	5.5	3.0	3.5	12.3
97½	83	Guinness	83	−1	h4.9	2.6	8.3	4.7
148	114	High'd Dist. 20p	126	.....	†2.1	2.9	2.4	16.3
237	196	Invergordon	200xd	.....	4.0	3.6	2.9	10.6
84	73	Irish Distillers	80	.....	ɸQ3.9	6.9	4.3	4.4
625	540	Macallan, Glen.	540	.....	†5.9	2.9	1.6	(24.0)
73	53½	Marston Thompson	72	.....	1.62	3.9	3.2	11.1
120	87	Morland	115	.....	†3.0	1.3	3.7	21.4
70	52½	Scott & New 20p	67	−1	4.37	1.9	9.3	6.6
210	129	Tomatin	133	.....	3.75	2.0	4.0	10.1
165	129	Vaux	140	.....	†6.04	2.9	6.2	6.2
174	125	Whitbread 'A'	166	.....	6.0	2.8	5.2	7.9
196	133	Wolv. Dudley	192	.....	h4.2	3.8	3.2	10.7
192	155	Young Brew 'A' 50p	188	.....	4.3	3.5	3.3	9.5

BUILDING INDUSTRY, TIMBER AND ROADS

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or −	Div. Net	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's	P/E
140	79	Aberdeen Const.	140	.....	5.75	3.1	5.9	7.9
200	117	Aberthaw Cem.	200	.....	8.44	2.1	6.0	(9.3)
37	29	Allied Plant 10p	33½	.....	1.58	4.1	6.7	4.0
113	45½	Armitage Shnks	112	+6½	4.4	2.4	5.6	9.3
46	31	Arncliffe 10p	32	.....	2.66	3.4	11.9	(2.7)
252	148	BPB Inds. 50p	234	−2	9.0	3.4	5.5	6.2
60	41	Baggeridge Brk.	53	.....	3.75	2.7	10.1	4.2
20	14	Bailey Ben 10p	18	.....	†d1.2	4.4	9.8	2.5
156	100	Barratt Dev. 10p	156	+14	¶12.35	ɸ	14.1	ɸ
25½	19	Beechwood 10p	21	.....	2.2	2.6	15.0	(2.9)
80	63	Bellway	70	−1	7.0	2.6	14.3	3.1
42	23½	Benlox 10p	36	.....	0.5	2.4	2.0	(28.6)
43	34	Benford M. 10p	40	.....	2.62	2.4	9.4	6.3
49	38	Bett Bros. 20p	43	−1	†d2.5	3.6	8.3	5.3
90	59	Blockleys 20p	93	.....	†6.39	1.8	10.3	7.9
*379	229	Blue Circle £1	354	+2	§15.0	3.1	6.1	9.2
119	101	Breedon Lime	105	.....	†h7.5	1.5	10.4	9.2
28	18	Brit. Dredging	21	.....	—	—	—	25.3
*220	120	Brown Jksn. 20p	124	−4	†9.0	3.4	10.4	(3.2)
101	54½	Brownlee	58	−1	h3.33	2.6	8.2	5.5
74	51	Bryant Hldgs.	73	−1	†4.0	4.1	7.8	3.3
800	470	Burnett & Hallam	785	.....	¶8.0	7.2	1.5	10.6
215	177	Burt Boulton £1	177	.....	d10.0	4.9	8.1	2.7
41	29	C. Robey 'A' 10p	41	.....	2.3	3.7	8.0	4.5
31	20	Cal'nder (GM) 10p	27	.....	d1.65	4.2	8.7	3.9
63	50	Carr (John)	59	.....	†d1.86	4.0	4.5	7.9
41	22	Carron	31	.....	h2.3	3.2	11.0	(3.4)
89	71½	Cement Roadstone	84	.....	†4.62	2.8	4.8	6.2
37	25	Comben Gp. 10p	37	+1	2.55	3.3	9.8	3.4
121	98	Conder Int.	112	.....	d7.0	3.0	8.9	(4.2)
198	125	Costain Group	180xd	.....	†9.0	5.7	7.1	4.6
156	87	Do. Defd.	142	.....	—	—	—	—
74	58	Countryside	63	.....	3.5	5.2	8.3	2.5
164	107	Crouch (D.) 20p	146xd	.....	†4.6	1.3	4.5	25.0
111	74	Crouch Group	112	+1	4.4	2.4	5.7	8.3
76	60	Douglas Robt. M.	70xd	−1	4.5	ɸ	9.2	ɸ
133	98	D'wning G.H. 50p	133	.....	8.75	2.0	9.4	7.5
69	53	Erith	64	−1	h3.75	2.5	8.4	6.9
75	54	Fairclough Cons.	69	.....	4.0	3.3	8.5	4.4
53	30	Feb. Intl. 10p	52	.....	d2.45	3.2	6.7	5.9
43	30	Do. 'A' 10p	41	.....	d2.45	3.2	8.5	4.7
77	57	Finlan (John) 10p	75	−1	2.5	2.2	4.8	14.0
23	15	Francis Pkr. 10p	22	−1	—	—	—	6.0
42	26	French Kier	42	.....	s2.22	4.1	7.6	4.1
72	61	Galliford Br. 5p	62	.....	4.13	3.2	9.5	4.4
26	16	Gibbs D'dy A 10p	16	.....	1.25	3.7	11.2	2.8
43	32	Gleeson (M.J.) 10p	35	.....	†2.33	1.7	9.5	9.0
49	35	Glossop W. & J.	41	.....	4.2	—	14.6	—
127	62	G'gh Cooper 20p	127#	.....	ɸ5.6	2.6	6.3	(7.0)
44	30	H.A.T. Grp. 10p	44	.....	2.0	2.6	6.5	6.9
32	26	Helical Bar	30	.....	2.75	2.3	13.1	(3.9)
185	96	Henderson (P. C.)	135	−2	9.0	4.4	8.5	3.6
55	41	Hewden St. 10p	41	−1	h1.25	5.4	4.4	4.5
87	36	Heywood Wms.	36	.....	4.9	1.9	19.4	(3.3)
96	45	Higgs & Hill	82	−2	3.85	3.2	6.7	(5.1)
76	59	Hoveringham	60	.....	2.79	4.1	6.6	5.2
75	57	Do. Res. Vtg.	57	.....	2.79	4.1	7.0	4.9
31	19	Howard Shut 10p	29	.....	2.0	ɸ	9.9	ɸ
72	51	I.D.C. 20p	69	.....	†h4.6	2.1	9.8	6.9
75	55	Ibstock Johnsen	68	+2	4.5	2.4	9.5	5.4
126	96	Int. Timber	97	−1	6.9	2.2	13.1	4.1
139	97	Jarvis (J.)	135xd	.....	12.0	ɸ	12.7	ɸ
9½	7	††Jayplant	9	−½	—	—	—	23.1
56	42	Jennings SA0.50	55	.....	‡Q12%	0.8	‡	24.0
16	13	Jones Edwd. 10p	14	.....	—	—	—	—
£28⅛	£23½	Lafarge S.A.F100	£28	.....	Q22.5%	ɸ	8.6	ɸ
61	41	Laing (John) "A"	55	.....	2.87	4.2	7.5	4.3
145	104½	Latham (J.) £1	122	.....	9.1	2.5	10.7	(4.4)
102	76	Lawrence (W.)	90	.....	7.00	2.4	11.1	5.0
82	59	Leech (Wm.) 20p	72	.....	†6.64	1.6	13.2	(6.1)
48	27	Leyland Paint	25½	−½	†5.0	2.3	‡	5.4
91	75	Lilley F.J.C.	89	−1	3.85	4.1	6.2	5.3
83	55½	London Brick	76	.....	4.37	3.2	8.2	5.4
157	94	Lovell (Y. J.)	156	−1	†5.75	4.2	5.3	4.9
69	50	††McLaughlin & H.	50	.....	†g4.67	2.9	14.3	3.4
185	127	Magnet & Sthns.	160	.....	7.5	2.9	6.7	6.8
*80½	44	Mallinson-Denny	63	−1	3.75	2.9	7.9	5.0
160	135	Manders (Hldg)	150	.....	4.4	2.7	4.2	10.2
101	78	Marchwiel	87	+1	†6.0	3.8	9.9	2.9
205	170	Marshalls (Hfx)	173	.....	9.0	3.5	7.2	(4.3)
97	64	May & Hassell	86	−1	4.6	3.4	7.6	4.2
57	44	M.D.W.	46	−2	3.75	3.8	11.6	2.5
120	73	Meyer (Mont. L.)	95	+1	6.25	3.8	9.4	4.8
60	46	Milbury	50	.....	4.9	4.6	14.0	1.7
13	7½	Miller (Stan) 10p	12	.....	d1.4	1.2	16.7	6.9
87	64	Mixconcrete	76	.....	4.05	2.8	7.5	6.7
34	23	Mod. Engineers	30	.....	3.0	2.4	14.3	3.7
47	23	Monk (A)	31	.....	1.25	—	5.8	—
106	85	Mowlem (J)	104	.....	7.98	2.6	11.0	4.3
345	200	Newarthill £1	327	−6	6.0	3.3	2.6	16.7
190	113	Nott. Brick 50p	145	.....	†h6.02	2.4	5.9	10.2
147	102	Phoenix Timber	102	.....	5.0	1.3	7.0	14.8
193	152	Pochins	192	.....	d9.0	4.8	6.7	3.9
203	126	R.M.C.	193	−2	8.25	3.4	6.1	5.6
189	145	Redland	167	−1	6.67	2.4	5.7	8.3
£67	£40½	Redland (£ Wrnts.)	£64½	.....	—	—	—	—
72	41	R'ch'ds. Wall 10p	50	−1	†d5.23	2.3	14.9	(3.4)
140	103	Roberts Adlard	103	.....	7.0	2.7	9.7	5.5
152	63	Rohan Group	150	.....	†8.0	6.7	3.3	4.2
42	30	Rowlinson 10p	41	.....	d0.61	8.5	2.1	—
49½	37	Royco Group 5p	40	.....	3.5	3.6	12.5	3.2
66	46	Ruberoid	63	−2	3.1	3.1	7.0	7.6
*82	54	Rugby P. Cement	77	−1	M4.7	2.2	8.7	(6.0)
172	117	SGB Group	166	+2	†h4.58	4.8	3.9	6.1
49	32	Sharpe & Fisher	36	.....	†1.75	3.2	7.0	5.8
39	27	Sheffield Brick	27	.....	1.75	8.6	9.3	(4.7)
40	33	Smart (J.) 10p	37	.....	b3.16	2.0	12.2	6.0
6¼	4	Southern Con. 5p	4#	.....	—	—	—	—
22	11	Streeters 10p	17	.....	—	—	—	—
298	183	Tarmac 50p	282	.....	†13.75	3.7	7.1	4.5
500	315	Taylor Woodrow	470	−2	13.31	3.2	4.0	11.0
240	155	Tilbury C'tg £1	217	.....	22.38	2.3	14.7	(3.4)
138½	109½	Travis & Arnold	118	.....	†h3.58	6.3	4.4	4.7
246	140	Tunnel B	220	−2	9.0	3.0	5.8	6.5
76½	59	UBM Group	66	−½	5.5	2.0	11.9	6.1
34	30	Vectis Stone 10p	33	.....	†1.45	2.7	6.3	8.1
295	230	Vibroplant	255	.....	14.53	2.8	8.1	5.3
58	35	Ward Hldgs. 10p	40	−1	d4.2	4.5	15.0	1.6
27	18	Do. Defd.	22	.....	—	—	—	—
55	36	Warrington	46	.....	3.54	2.0	11.0	(5.3)
150	114	Watts Blake	150	+3	†h2.88	4.3	2.8	11.1
59	50	Westbrick Prods.	53	.....	3.75	3.8	10.1	4.1
98	70	Wettern Bros	70	.....	5.21	8.5	10.6	(5.2)
21	14	Whatlings	19	.....	1.9	—	14.3	—
119	80	Whit'gh'm 12½p	116	−2	†6.0	3.4	7.5	4.3
35	19	Wiggins Con. 10p	26xd	.....	1.9	—	10.4	—
120	85	Wilson (Connolly)	120xd	.....	†h3.63	6.9	4.3	4.8
95	63	Wimpey (Geo)	91	−2	2.25	4.8	3.5	6.5

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or −	Div. Net	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's	P/E
600	462	Akzo Fl.20	470	.....	Q12%	4.3	10.8	2.3
123	101	All'd Colloid 10p	123	−4	2.54	ɸ	3.0	[illegible]
88	32	Anchor Chem.	85	−1	5.3	2.9	8.9	(4.3)
116	22	Arrow Chemicals	22	−2	1.4	1.8	9.1	9.1
£36¼	£29¾	BASF AG DM50	£30	−1	Q16%	2.1	7.0	6.9
£32½	£26½	Bayer AG. DM.50	£26½	−½	Q21.88%	1.3	9.6	5.2
145	82	††Bio-Kil Chem. 10p	144	.....	‡‡4.9	1.3	5.0	(9.0)
132	113	Blagden Noakes	116	.....	7.7	2.9	9.5	4.5
*158	115	Brent Chems 10p	139	−7	4.5	2.9	4.6	15.9
55	23	Brit. Benzol 10p	31	.....	2.0	2.8	9.2	(4.3)
41	30½	Brit. Tar Prd. 10p	32	.....	h2.1	3.0	9.4	4.1
7¼	5½	Burrell 5p	6½#	.....	0.1	—	2.2	—
82	48	Catalin	48	.....	3.85	3.2	11.4	3.9
£98½	£91	Ciba-G'gy 7¾% Ln.	£96	.....	Q7¾%	14.9	f7.6	—
£88	£80	Do. 8% Cnv 81/94	£86	.....	Q8%	14.9	f9.5	—
£86½	£78½	Do. 8¼% Cnv 82/95	£84	.....	Q8¼%	13.5	f10.3	—
*145	82	Coalite Group	142	.....	3.85	4.4	3.9	7.1
63	49	Coates Bros.	55	.....	3.0	3.1	7.8	5.4
62	46	Do. 'A' NV	53	.....	3.0	3.1	8.1	5.2
21½	17½	Cory (Horace) 5p	17½	−½	1.3	2.5	10.9	4.4
54	34½	Croda Int. 10p	39½	+½	3.1	2.8	11.7	(3.4)
29	17	Croda Int. Defd.	20	.....	—	—	—	—
36	14	Dixor-Strand 5p	13	.....	—	—	—	—
144	108	Ellis & Everard	143	−1	6.5	ɸ	6.5	ɸ
304	203	Fisons £1	203	−2	16.45	1.4	12.0	7.4
45½	27	Halstead (J.) 10p	32½	.....	†2.0	4.6	8.8	3.3
180	152	Hlcn. Welch 50p	163	−2	7.5	3.6	6.6	4.6
322	257	Hoechst DM5	257	−8	Q21.9%	2.1	9.9	4.8
£100	£89½	Do. Fn. 10% Uns. Ln.	£96	.....	Q10%	—	f10.7	—
402	348	Imp. Chem. £1	352xd	−2	23.0	2.3	9.3	(5.5)
41½	35½	Do. 5% Pf. £1	41½	.....	3.5	[illegible]	12.0	—
83	62	Int. Paint	73	.....	3.05	4.2	6.1	4.2
115	93	Laporte Inds. 50p	97	+1	8.75	1.1	13.4	9.7
194	86	Leigh Ints 5p	187	−1	5.0	1.8	3.8	17.6
101	80	Morley (R.H.) 10p	80	.....	g4.75	ɸ	8.5	ɸ
£69¾	£39½	Norsk H. Kr100	£53	+2¼	Q12%	ɸ	2.1	ɸ
£39	£18	Novo Inds. A/S 'B'	£36	.....	Q12%	3.9	3.0	9.7
107	89	Plysu 10p	90	−2	1.89	6.8	3.0	6.1
285	98	Ransom Wm. 10p	225	−5	5.6	4.4	3.6	9.1
164	94	Rentokil 10p	159	.....	†2.25	3.1	2.0	21.9
52	29	Revertex	44	.....	ɸ1.17	2.7	3.8	13.7
190	161	Scot. Ag. Ind. £1	182	.....	14.75	2.5	11.9	4.8
102	70	Stewart Plastics	98xd	.....	d2.74	ɸ	4.0	ɸ
*16¼	11	Thargar Bardex 10p	13xd	.....	†0.9	2.8	9.9	(4.2)
34	20	Wardle (Ber.) 10p	25	.....	ɸ1.53	3.4	8.7	3.7
145	122	Wolstenholme	122	−1	5.75	4.0	6.9	5.1
62	26	Yorks Chems	34	−2	‡4.85	1.3	‡	(4.8)

DRAPERY AND STORES

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or −	Div. Net	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's	P/E
24	16	Allebone 10p	21	.....	1.0	2.0	5.0	10.7
39	22½	Amber Day 20p	27½	+½	2.86	ɸ	16.0	ɸ
37	27	Acuascutum 5p	32	.....	2.05	2.6	9.2	5.4
37	26	Do. 'A' 5p	30	.....	2.05	2.6	9.8	5.0
90	62	B & Q (Retail) 5p	82	.....	ɸ2.0	3.6	3.5	10.1
90	61½	Baker's Strs. 10p	74	−1	Fd1.5	9.3	2.9	5.2
68	41	Banbers Stores 10p	48	−1	h1.33	4.3	4.0	6.9
155	131½	Beattie (J) 'A'	142	−1	4.5	4.1	4.5	7.8
36	26	Bentalls 10p	25	.....	1.35	2.5	7.4	6.2
14	7	Bilton & Con. 20p	10	.....	—	—	—	3.9
12½	4½	Boardman KO 5p	10	.....	0.1	18.3	1.4	3.9
38	21	Bolton Text. 5p	24	.....	0.63	1.2	3.7	(28.9)
60	47	Bremner	55	.....	4.3	1.2	11.2	11.1
170	113	Brit. Home Strs.	143	.....	h4.38	2.9	4.4	9.5
38	24	Brown (N) 20p	36	.....	3.32	2.6	13.2	3.4
128	104	Burton Grp. 50p	110	.....	†h5.0	2.9	6.5	(6.7)
63	35	Cantors 'A' 20p	42	.....	d2.3	—	8.1	—
37	38	Casket (S.) 10p	18	.....	1.75	3.6	13.9	2.8
196	156	Church	156xd	−1	7.5	4.6	6.9	3.4
39	29	Comb. Eng. 12½p	35	.....	3.15	1.5	12.9	(6.5)
99	68	Comet R. Serv. 5p	84	+1	†bd3.5	4.6	6.1	3.8
39	13	Cope Sports 5p	15	.....	1.0	—	9.5	—
88	10½	Cornell Dress 5p	66	+4	ɸ0.8	2.6	1.7	26.9
92	68	Courts 'A'	72	.....	3.7	2.6	7.3	6.4
220	153	Currys	214	+2	7.5	4.1	5.0	(5.7)
90	64	Debenhams	78	+1	6.37	0.9	11.7	(14.6)
60	44	Dewhirst 10p	57	+1	†h1.35	4.2	3.4	7.5
123	90	Dixons Photo 10p	123	+1	3.32	4.2	3.9	6.7
23	18	Ellis & Gold 15p	19½	.....	2.3	1.9	16.8	4.2
178	128	Empire Stores	138	.....	5.1	3.0	5.3	9.8
42	24	Executex 20p	51	.....	†d1.85	3.9	8.7	3.8
24	20	Fairdale Text. 5p	20	.....	1.5	1.8	10.7	7.6
23	13	Do. 'A' 5p	20	.....	1.5	1.8	10.7	7.6
78	47½	Fine Art Devs. 5p	77	.....	2.5	2.4	4.6	12.9
57	20	Ford (M'tin) 10p	22	.....	‡2.6	1.6	‡	5.3
146	106	Forminster 10p	120	.....	4.2	4.0	5.0	7.1
104	72	Foster Bros	90	−2	3.19	3.9	5.1	7.2
160	106	Freemans (Lon)	122	.....	3.5	4.1	4.1	6.8
57	40	Gelfer (A.J.) 20p	41	.....	3.7	2.2	12.9	5.6
69	60	Goldberg A.	64	.....	5.25	1.7	11.7	6.1
15	9½	Goodman Br. 5p	11½	.....	0.96	ɸ	13.1	ɸ
110	50	Grattan Ware	50	.....	6.29	1.1	18.0	(7.2)
476	342	Gt. Universal	470	.....	11.62	q3.2	3.6	12.0
470	340	Gus A	464	.....	11.62	q3.2	3.6	11.8
53	38	Greenfields 10p	43	+½	2.15	2.9	6.5	(6.1)
208	136	Harris Queensway	154	−2	6.0	2.7	5.6	8.6
26½	19	Helene Lon. 10p	19½	.....	1.48	3.9	10.8	3.8
245	180	Do. 12pc Cnv. Pf.	190	+5	Q12%	26.8	9.6	—
27	15	Henriques A 10p	24	.....	b1.5	2.9	8.9	5.5
94	57	Hepworth (J.) 10p	88	+1	3.79	2.6	6.2	7.6
91	64	Hiltons 20p	73	.....	4.72	3.3	7.8	4.1
154	92	Home Charm 10p	97	−1	d2.3	5.6	3.4	5.5
152	104	House of Fraser	130	−4	6.0	2.3	6.7	8.7
72	53	House of Lerose	62	.....	5.26	1.9	12.1	5.5
124	80	Jones (Ernest) 10p	110	.....	†hd3.75	3.0	4.9	(7.6)
44	8	Kitchen Queen 10p	10	.....	b—	—	—	—
17	8	Kunick 10p	8	.....	†0.77	2.6	13.8	3.1
49	36	Ladies Pride 20p	42	−2	‡3.4	2.7	11.6	5.6
225	115	Lee Cooper	160	.....	h2.74	8.2	2.4	5.2
165	147	Liberty	148	.....	‡3.4	8.2	3.3	—
125	83	Do. Non Vtg. Ord.	83	.....	‡3.4	0.2	5.9	—
39	22	Lincroft K. 10p	23	.....	‡4.05	1.7	‡	2.7
35	19	Lowland Drapery	19	.....	1.5	—	11.3	—
89	45	MFI Furniture 10p	59	.....	2.62	3.6	6.3	6.2
111	77	Marks & Spencer	104	−1	3.4	2.1	4.7	14.8
202	180½	Martin News	198	.....	†8.5	4.0	6.1	4.4
262	195	Menzies (J.)	257	−2	†6.0	5.2	3.4	6.1
32	18	Michael (J) 10p	20	.....	—	—	—	6.7
182	134	Milletts Leis. 20p	178	.....	6.95	2.8	5.6	7.1
266	190	Mothercare 10p	250	−2	5.0	3.4	2.9	14.8
*130	96	NSS News 10p	130	.....	t5.4	4.3	3.7	8.3
90	69	N'thn. Goldsmith	80	.....	3.25	3.7	5.8	5.4
122	91	Oliver (G.) "A"	91xd	−1	†4.0	5.2	6.3	3.4
135	77	Owen Owen	102	.....	3.7	4.5	5.2	5.1
33	14	Paradise (B) 10p	33	.....	—	—	—	—
51	33	Pawson (W.L.)	34	.....	3.15	1.4	13.2	(7.5)
74	48	Peters Stores 10p	58	.....	†d3.0	4.2	7.4	3.5
*125	6	Polly Peck 5p	107	−3	—	—	—	—
77	55	Preedy (Alfred)	55	.....	3.35	1.5	8.7	9.3
50	37	Pullman R. & J. 5p	47	.....	3.81	ɸ	12.4	ɸ
9½	7	Ramar Text. 5p	7	.....	0.53	4.1	10.7	(2.5)
63	42	Ratners 10p	53	+1	2.3	3.5	6.2	5.1
87	54	Raybeck 10p	74xd	.....	4.3	ɸ	8.3	ɸ
32	12½	Readicut 5p	13	.....	1.25	2.3	13.7	4.6
72	56	Reed Austin 'A'	69	+2	3.36	3.3	7.0	5.6
28	16	Rosgill 5p	20	.....	2.47	2.1	19.0	(3.0)
18	13	S&U Stores 12½p	13½	.....	—	—	—	ɸ
22	16½	Do. 25% Pf. 12½p	19	.....	—	—	—	—
174	125	Samuel (H) 'A'	168	.....	6.25	2.7	5.3	9.5
20	12	Selincourt 5p	12½	.....	1.82	1.2	20.8	(5.7)
163	132	Smith W. H. 'A' 50p	145	+1	4.2	3.1	4.1	9.2
85	58	Stanley A.G. 5p	63xd	.....	d2.5	2.9	5.7	6.7
48	39	Stead. & Sim 'A'	39	−2	3.25	2.5	11.9	4.1
20½	14	Steinberg 10p	14	.....	d1.1	2.4	11.2	5.4
33	13	Sumrie 20p	13	.....	1.5	3.8	16.5	2.2
77	57	Time Prods. 10p	74	.....	2.25	3.7	4.3	6.9
75	50	Tricoville 10p	64	−2	†2.2	6.6	4.8	4.3
80	63½	UDS Group	70	+1	6.21	0.9	13.1	(12.0)
39	28	Upton (E) 'A'	28	.....	2.75	3.2	14.0	3.2
110	65	Vantona 20p	66	+1	8.0	3.2	17.3	2.0
103	77	Walker (Jas.)	81	.....	4.0	ɸ	7.3	ɸ
94	64	Do. N.V.	71	.....	4.0	ɸ	8.4	ɸ
126	95	Waring & Gillow	107	.....	5.5	2.7	7.3	7.1
61	43	Wearwell 5p	59	.....	2.5	2.4	6.2	(7.7)
70	32½	Wharf Mill 10p●	32½#	.....	‡ɸ0.6	—	‡	—
79	48	Wilkinson Warben	50	.....	d6.29	1.9	18.0	4.1
71½	51	Woolworth	54½	+½	ɸ4.92	2.3	‡	7.6

ELECTRICALS

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or −	Div. Net	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's	P/E
198	130	A.B. Electronic	188	+2	7.5	ɸ	5.8	ɸ
223	168	††Air Call	215	.....	b2.63	3.3	1.7	25.2
122	82	Amstrad	97	+2	bd3.3	3.0	4.9	(7.7)
73	47	Arlen Elect.	47	.....	†d6.0	1.7	18.2	4.8
13½	8	††Ascot TV Rent.	10	.....	—	—	—	—
9	4	Audiotronic 10p	4	.....	—	—	—	—
9¼	3½	Do. 12pc Ptg. Prel.	3	.....	B—	—	—	—
345	200	Auto'ted Sec. 10p	305	−15	†2.0	6.8	0.9	18.9
155	95	BICC 50p	135	+1	†8.57	2.2	8.1	(6.4)
42	18	BSR 10p	23	+1	‡2.83	1.8	‡	(8.2)
122	80	Berec	96	.....	5.49	2.2	8.2	(6.6)
172	87	Bowthorpe 10p	161	.....	2.7	3.2	2.4	17.5
91	18	Brocks 10p	30	+2	1.28	1.4	6.1	(15.0)
42	22	Bulgin 'A' 5p	38	−1	1.35	2.1	5.1	13.2
78	40½	Chloride Grp	41	.....	4.0	1.4	13.9	(6.5)
33	15	Concord Rota. 10p	22	.....	‡0.52	—	‡	—

ELECTRICALS—Continued

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FINANCIAL TIMES

PUBLISHED IN LONDON & FRANKFURT

Head Office: The Financial Times Limited, Bracken House, 10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY
Telex: Editorial 8954871. Advertisements: 885033. Telegrams: Finantimo, London.
Telephone: 01-248 8000.

Frankfurt Office: The Financial Times (Europe) Ltd., Frankenallee 68-72, 6000 Frankfurt-am-Main 1.
Telex: Editorial 416052. Commercial 416193. Telephone: Editorial 7598 234. Commercial 7598 1.

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INDUSTRIALS—Continued

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or −	Div. Net	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's	P/E
54	45	Hargreaves 20p	52	......	3.96	2.2	10.9	(5.8)
88	60	Harris (Ph.) 20p	87	......	5.5	1.6	9.0	(8.3)
46½	31	Harris & Sheldon	37	+1	3.0	2.3	11.9	5.8
34	20	Hawkins & Tipson	22	+2	‡1.0	3.2	‡	6.7
36½	9½	Hawtin 5p	9½	......	0.25	8.6	3.8	3.3
63	46	Hay (Norman) 10p	62	......	3.35	1.9	7.7	9.6
106	57	Heenan 'A' 10p	102	......	φ2.5	3.5	3.5	11.6
112	86½	Hepworth Cmic.	97½xd	−1½	5.0	3.3	7.3	4.8
36	22	Hestair	25	−1	1.0	1.8	5.5	(11.5)
50	32	Hewitt (J.)	37	......	1.5	9.8	5.8	2.8
45	24	Highgate & Job 50p	30	+3	—	—	—	—
55	45	Hill (Chas.) £1	52	......	—	—	—	—
33	17	Hirst Mat'son 20p	20	......	†2.6	1.4	‡	(3.8)
100	75	Holden (A.)	103	......	5.0	3.3	7.1	4.9
51	23	Hollis Bros	27	......	2.4	1.4	7.4	(12)
68	71	Holt Lloyd Int. 10p	76	......	†5.17	2.5	6.0	7.8
182	118	Hoover 'A'	135	+2	†12.0	8.5	‡	(12)
112	65	Hopkins & H 20p	60	......	8.0	1.5	13.3	6.0
*80	54	Howard Tenens	66	+1	2.25	2.0	4.9	12.2
377	230	Hunting Assoc.	255	......	5.0	6.6	2.0	9.1
129	66	Huntleigh 10p	117	......	1.19	2.8	1.5	27.9
116	55½	Hutch Whamp $HK1	116	+1	MQ28c	2.6	2.0	18.8
25½	17	Hyman (I. & J.) 5p	19xd	......	1.25	3.6	9.9	4.0
£13⅝	845	I.C. Industries $1	£13¼	+⅛	Q$2.00	—	6.7	—
196	111	ICL	175	+1	††2.97	7.4	2.4	6.0
32	24	Ingall Inds. 10p	32	......	‡2.27	1.7	10.1	9.3
195	107	Initial Services	190	+1	7.5	2.3	5.6	9.4
13	9	Inter-City 20p	9½	......	0.6	1.8	9.0	(7.3)
57	39½	J. B. Holdings 10p	44	......	3.0	2.1	9.7	6.9
150	100	Jacksons Bourne	103	......	φ5.0	φ	6.9	φ
21½	4½	James (M.) Ind. 10p	10¼	−1	0.75	3.9	10.5	2.8
233	100	Jardine M. $HK5	233	+2	MQ32c	1.9	3.0	17.6
29	18	Jentique	18	......	1.03	φ	8.2	φ
7	4	Johnson & Barnes	4	......	—	—	—	—
193	136	Johnson Clnrs.	142	−2	†6.2	3.8	6.2	4.5
284	182	Johnson Mthy. £1	272	−5	†17.5	2.8	3.9	(10.4)
72	39½	Jourdan (T.) 10p	70	......	4.2	0.6	8.6	27.1
83	63	Kalamazoo 10p	78	......	5.75	1.6	6.9	13.1
138	98	Kelsey Inds.	134	......	17.0	4.1	7.5	5.5
80	53	Kennedy Sm. 10p	78	−1	3.5	2.4	6.4	5.5
362	225	Kershaw (A.) 5p	360xd	+10	‡21.75	0.6	10.4	(32.1)
76	66	Kleen-E-Ze Hldgs.	71	......	5.5	2.1	11.1	3.3
82	64	L.C.P. Hlds	65	−1	4.3	1.8	9.4	7.9
28	16	L.K. Ind'l. Invs.	23	......	1.5	—	9.3	—
36	25	L.R.C. Int. 10p	35	......	2.45	1.5	10.0	(6.6)
64	44	Lawtex	52	......	†3.56	4.5	10.2	2.3
168	134	Lead Inds. 50p	168	−3	9.66	2.7	8.9	5.4
96	70	Leadenhall Sterling	73	......	5.25	3.3	6.8	6.6
92	46	Le Bas (Ed)	81	......	φ1.93	2.9	3.4	11.2
325	229	Lep Group 10p	325	......	16.5	2.5	7.3	6.9
34	15	Lesney Prods. 5p	18	−1	1.23	—	9.8	—
142	108	Letraset 10p	115	−1	7.14	2.3	8.9	7.5
54	41	Lilleshall 10p	43	......	3.5	3.8	11.6	2.4
38	28	Lon. & Liv. 10p	34	......	H1.4	1.2	6.0	33.7
122	83	London & Mid'd	105	......	7.75	2.6	10.5	6.2
42½	32	Lon. & Nthn. Grp.	35	−1	3.75	3.3	15.3	2.4
11	7	Long Hmbly. 10p	8	......	‡0.48	5.8	‡	2.5
90	66	Longton Inds.	66xd	......	5.0	3.7	10.8	2.8
65	50	Lonsdale Univsl.	57	......	†5.17	1.9	13.0	5.0
44	10	††Lonrim	10	......	b3.36	1.3	48.0	2.4

INSURANCE—Continued

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or −	Div. Net	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's	P/E
38	24	Edin. Gen. Ins. 10p	24	......	—	—	—	—
£128	£105	Enstn UK 9%Cnv.	£122	......	Q9%	—	17.6	—
334	178	Equity & Law 5p	328	−2	11.0	—	4.8	—
370	212	Gen. Accident	358	......	†12.0	—	4.9	—
370	220	G.R.E.	358	......	†13.5	—	5.5	—
307	212	Hambro Life 5p	290	−2	7.2	—	3.4	—
223	185	Heath (C.E.) 20p	213	−2	§9.66	2.2	6.5	9.1
140	83	Hogg Robinson	130	−3	5.7	2.2	6.3	10.2
114	94	Howden (A.) 10p	103	+1	7.0	1.7	9.7	8.1
£47	£33	Do. Warrants	£37	......	—	—	—	—
257	151	Legal & General	247	−1	†7.6	—	4.4	—
224	142	Lon. & Man. 5p	214	−4	6.75	—	5.6	—
165	122	London United 20p	155xd	......	9.0	2.5	8.3	7.5
£26⅞	£25	Marsh McLen'n $1	£23¼	−½	Q$3.60	1.8	5.7	9.7
117	94	Minet Hldgs. 20p	115	−2	4.47	2.0	6.0	10.2
32	20	Moran (Chris) 20p	23	......	4.0	φ	24.8	φ
438	268	Pearl 5p	430	−4	17.0	—	5.6	—
313	208	Phoenix	305	......	†13.3	—	6.3	—
204	136	Provident	204	......	10.2	—	7.1	—
268	162	Prudential	263	−2	†9.5	—	5.2	—
242	140	Refuge 5p	256	−2	†10.6	—	6.5	—
480	307	Royal	472	......	†21.5	—	6.6	—
136	88	Sedgwick 10p	127xd	−2	5.0	2.3	5.6	11.2
97	67	Stenhouse	91	......	4.52	2.5	7.1	8.2
242	168	Stewart Wr. 20p	218	−14	12.0	2.6	8.0	(8.6)
808	520	Sun Alliance £1	800	......	†28.0	—	5.1	—
237	130	Sun Life 5p	236	+3	H7.5	—	4.5	—
567	453	Taisho Mar. EDR	525	−10	φQ10%	—	0.2	—
213	155	Trade Indemnity	210	......	†5.6	—	3.8	—
£19⅝	£15¼	Travelers $2.50	£18¼	+⅛	Q$2.48	—	6.1	—
273	207	Willis Faber	258	+1	†11.0	1.8	6.2	12.5

LEISURE

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or −	Div. Net	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's	P/E
92	60	Anglia TV 'A'	91	......	†3.57	3.0	5.6	8.2
115	81	Assoc. Leisure 5p	111½	−½	5.1	2.4	6.5	7.8
129	72	Barr & W.A.T. 'A'	72	−5	6.75	2.4	13.4	4.8
63½	28	Black Edgtn. 50p	38	......	‡5.0	1.0	‡	(7.6)
136	86	Boosey & Hawkes	128	......	5.67	1.8	6.3	(10.5)
90	45	Campari Int. 20p	55	......	††3.65	3.5	9.8	3.2
96	54	Coral Leis. 10p	90	−1	φ7.45	2.2	11.8	5.5
95½	62	Fairline Boats 10p	65½	......	φ5.2	3.6	11.3	5.2
55	37	Glasgow Pavilion 10p	40					
33	24	Grampian 'A' 10p	35	−1	2.23	1.7	9.3	8.8
120	90	HTV Non/Vtg.	116	......	10.0	1.5	12.7	7.7
50	35½	Hawley Leisure 5p	47	......	1.6	5.7	4.9	8.0
305	200	Horizon	284	−4	†7.35	4.4	3.7	8.8
14	4	H'w'rd Wy'd 20p	6	......	B—	—	—	—
14	9	Lancaster (D. M.) 5p	14	......	—	—	—	—
136	100	LWT "A"	108	−1	9.89	2.1	13.1	5.1
175	107	Mngmt. Ag. M. 10p	172	......	18.69	2.9	7.2	6.9
34	29	Medminster 10p	34	......	†2.25	1.9	9.7	7.5
9½	5½	††Nationwide 5p	9	......	φ0.37	8.1	5.9	—
98	63	Norton & Wrt. 10p	78	......	φ4.47	2.2	9.1	7.1
21	13	††Pan Atlas 20p	15	......	—	—	—	25.5
86	46	Pholax (Lon.)	85	......	d3.5	4.5	5.9	4.1
178	120	Pleasurama 5p	170	−1	4.83	4.4	4.1	8.0
59	55	Redif. TV Pref. £1	59	......	5.95	24.2	14.4	—
206	164	Saga Hols. 20p	182	......	†07.5	2.8	5.9	8.8

MINES—Continued

Australian

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or −	Div. Net	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's
26	21	Acmex 50c	26	......	—	—	—
24	12	ACM 20c	19	......	—	—	—
138	52½	Bond Corp.	138	......	hQ2.8c	2.2	1.8
156	88	Bougainville I Kina	132	−5	††Q3.2c	1.0	10.1
*347	221	CRA 50c	314xr	−6	tQ15c	2.1	8.4
25	11½	Canada Northwest	19½	......	—	—	—
42	8	Carr Boyd 20c	40	......	—	—	—
£38	£15¼	Central Pacific	£37	−½	—	—	—
41	17	Coltus Pacific N.L.	29	......	—	—	—
52	20	Eagle Corp. 10c	42	......	—	—	—
28	15¾	Endeavour 20c	27½	......	—	—	—
600	175	G. M. Kalgoorlie 25c	600	+13	Q13c	φ	1.1
46	15	Great Eastern	24½	+2	—	—	—
245	130	Hampton Areas 10p	245xc	+5	h2.25	2.4	1.3
204	30	Haoma Gold N.L.	166	......	—	—	—
62	15	Intl. Mining	58	......	—	—	—
720	80	Leichardt Expln.	160	......	—	—	—
30	7	Metals Energy	22	+2	—	—	—
91	41	Metals Ex. 50c	87	−2	Q3c	φ	1.8
250	150	M.I.M. Hldgs. 50c	232xc	+3	hQ24c	φ	5.4
21	7	Minefields Expl. 25c	20	......	—	—	—
155	60	Mount Lyell 25c	114	......	Q15c	φ	7.1
28	15	Newmetal 20c	18	−1	—	—	—
55	13	Nickelore N.L.	37	......	—	—	—
214	137	North B. Hill 50c	214	+4	Q18c	φ	4.4
119	44½	Nth. Kalgurli	116	−3	—	—	—
165	90	Nth. Mining Corp.	150	......	—	—	—
184	24	N. West Mining N.L.	144	−2	—	—	—
235	144	Oakbridge $A1	190	......	Q12c	4.7	3.3
153	70	Otter N. L.	135	......	—	—	—
240	128	Pacific Copper	206	−2	—	—	—
465	255	Pancont'l 25c	365	......	—	—	—
78	42	Paringa M&Ex.5p	65	−1	—	—	—
575	335	Peko-Wallsend 50c	560	−15	tQ17.5c	φ	1.6
230	140	Seltrust A	160	......	—	—	—
£14¼	575	Southern Pacific	£14	−⅛	—	—	—
100	31	Swan Resources 20c	100	......	—	—	—
34	8	West Coast 25c	22	......	—	—	—
313	177	Westn. Mining 50c	302	−1	Q14c	φ	2.4
30	10	Westmex	18	......	—	—	—
108	56	Whim Creek 20c	105	......	—	—	—
34	10½	York Resources	27	......	—	—	—

Tins

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or −	Div. Net	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's
25	14	Amal Nigeria 1p	17	......	‡6.0	—	—
370	255	Ayer Hitam $M1	340	......	‡Q290c	0.9	‡
72	42	Beralt Tin	72	......	4.5	3.2	8.9
300	149½	Berjuntai $M1	270	−5	Q85c	φ	6.6
230	150	Geevor	150	......	8.4	1.9	8.0
12½	10	Gold & Base 12½p	12½	......	—	—	—
650	310	Gopeng Cons.	640	+15	†25.0	1.8	5.6
440	280	Hongkong	440	+10	‡35.87	φ	‡
132	90	Idris 10p	132	......	14.0	1.2	15.2
15	12½	Jantar 12½p	14	......	1.5	φ	15.3
115	64	Kamunting $M0.50	103xd	......	Q80c	1.0	0.0
425	150	Killinghall $M1	425	+25	††Q50c	φ	2.4
125	48½	Malay Dredging 10c	121	......	mQ10½c	2.6	1.8
42	26	Pahang	39	......	0.44	0.3	1.6
112	83	Pengkalen 10p	112	......	6.0	1.3	7.7
335	250	Petaling $M1	335	......	†Q150c	1.4	9.4
44	22	South Crofty 10p	24	......	1.0	φ	6.0
305	215	Sungei Besi $M1	255	......	Q480c	1.1	38.3
100	22½	Supreme Corp. $M1	100	+10	hQ8c	—	1.6
125	90	Tanjong 15p	120	......	φ5.75	6.0	6.8
115	78	Tongkah H. Tin	103	+3	Q45c	1.3	9.4
355	220	Tronoh $M1	327xd	+7	‡Q250c	0.7	‡

Copper

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or −	Div. Net	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's
255	130	Messina R0.50	255	......	mQ10c	φ	2.2

Miscellaneous

1980 High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or −	Div. Net	C'vr	Y'ld Gr's
180	78½	Anglo-Dominion	142	−3	—	—	—
97	52	Barymin	60	......	—	—	—
17	12	Burma Mines 10p	13½	+½	0.62	1.1	6.6
262	53	Colby Res. Corp.	243	+3	—	—	—
502	285	Cons. Murch. 10c	390	......	hQ100c	1.8	14.7
190	80	††Hemerdon 10c	95	......	—	—	—
585	325	Northgate C$1	550	−10	—	—	—
*486	322	R.T.Z.	462xr	+2	t16.0	3.2	4.7
46	16	Robert Mines	43	+2	—	—	—
112	91	††SPO Minerals 10p	97	+2	—	—	—
58	26	Sabina Inds. C$1	44	......	—	—	—
51	31	††SWCM 10p	40	−1	—	—	—
650	411	Tara Expln. $1	575	......	—	—	—

NOTES

Unless otherwise indicated, prices and net dividends are in pence and denominations are 25p. Estimated price/earnings ratios and covers are based on latest annual reports and accounts and, where possible, are updated on half-yearly figures. P/Es are calculated on "net" distribution basis, earnings per share being computed on profit after taxation and unrelieved ACT where applicable; bracketed figures indicate 10 per cent or more difference if calculated on "nil" distribution. Covers are based on "maximum" distribution; this compares gross dividend costs to profit after taxation, excluding exceptional profits/losses but including estimated extent of offsettable ACT. Yields are based on middle prices, are gross, adjusted to ACT of 30 per cent and allow for value of declared distribution and rights.

● "Tap Stock.
* Highs and Lows marked thus have been adjusted to allow for rights issues for cash.
† Interim since increased or resumed.
‡ Interim since reduced, passed or deferred.
‡‡ Tax-free to non-residents on application.
φ Figures or report awaited.
†† Unlisted security.
# Price at time of suspension.
¶ Indicated dividend after pending scrip and/or rights issue: cover relates to previous dividends or forecasts.
◆ Merger bid or reorganisation in progress.
& Not comparable.
φ Same interim: reduced final and/or reduced earnings indicated.
§ Forecast dividend; cover on earnings updated by latest interim statement.
‡ Cover allows for conversion of shares not now ranking for dividends or ranking only for restricted dividend.
★ Cover does not allow for shares which may also rank for dividend at a future date. No P/E ratio usually provided.
♥ Excluding a final dividend declaration.
§ Regional price.
|| No par value.
§§ Yield based on assumption Treasury Bill Rate stays unchanged until maturity of stock. a Tax free. b Figures based on prospectus or other official estimate. c Cents. d Dividend rate paid or payable on part of capital; cover based on dividend on full capital. e Redemption yield. f Flat yield. g Assumed dividend and yield. h Assumed dividend and yield after scrip issue. j Payment from capital sources. k Kenya. m Interim higher than previous total. n Rights issue pending. q Earnings based on preliminary figures. s Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. t Indicated dividend: cover relates to previous dividend, P/E ratio based on latest annual earnings. u Forecast dividend: cover based on previous year's earnings. v Tax free up to 30p in the £. w Yield allows for currency clause. y Dividend and yield based on merger terms. z Dividend and yield include a special payment: Cover does not apply to special payment. A Net dividend and yield. B Preference dividend passed or deferred. C Canadian. E Minimum tender price. F Dividend and yield based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1979-80. G Assumed dividend and yield after pending scrip and/or rights issue. H Dividend and yield based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1980-81. K Figures based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1979-80. M Dividend and yield based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1980. N Dividend and yield based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1981. P Figures based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1980-81. Q Gross. T Figures assumed. Z Dividend total to date.

Abbreviations: xd ex dividend; xc ex scrip issue; xr ex rights; xa ex all; xR ex capital distribution.

REGIONAL MARKETS

The following is a selection of London quotations of shares previously listed only in regional markets. Prices of Irish issues, most of which are not officially listed in London, are as quoted on the Irish exchange.

			IRISH		
Albany Inv. 20p	35	......	Conv. 9% '80/82	£93⅞	......
Bertam	15	+1	Nat. 9¾% 84/89	£82¼	......
Bdg'wtr. Est. 50p	455	......	Fin. 13% 97/02	£89¾	+⅜
Craig & Rose £1	£11	......	Alliance Gas	58	......
Fife Forge	35	......	Arnott	213	......
Finlay Pkg. 5p	25	−2	Carroll (P.J.)	73	......
Graig Ship. £1	£13	......	Clondalkin	116	......
Higsons Brew.	77	......	Concrete Prods.	80	......
Holt (Jos) 25p	260	......	Helton (Hldgs.)	29	......
I.O.M. Stm. £1	152	......	Ins. Corp.	275	......
Pearce (C. H.)	465	......	Irish Ropes	42	......
Peel Mills	45	......	Jacob	31	......
Sheff. Refrshmt.	100	......	T.M.G.	65	......
Sindall (Wm.)	141	......	Unidare	75	......

OPTIONS

3-month Call Rates

Industrials		I.C.I.	27	Utd. Drapery	6½
A. Brew	7	"Imps"	6½	Vickers	12
BOC Intl.	6	I.C.L.	14	Woolworths	5½
B.S.R.	4½	Inveresk	4		
Babcock	8	Ladbroke	15	**Property**	
Barclays Bank	34	Legal & Gen.	25	Brit. Land	7
Beecham	10	Lex Service	8	Cap. Counties	9
Blue Circle	25	Lloyds Bank	24	Land Secs.	24
Boots	16	"Lots"	3½	MEPC	17
Bowaters	15	London Brick	6	Peachey	13
B.A.T.	20	Lucas Inds.	17	Samuel Props.	12
Brown (J.)	6	"Mams"	14	Town & City	2
Burton 'A'	10	Mrks. & Spncr	8		
Cadburys	5½	Midland Bank	26	**Oils**	
Courtaulds	8	N.E.I.	5	Brit. Petroleum	32
Debenhams	8	Nat. West. Bank	27	Burmah Oil	20
Distillers	17	P & O Dfd.	10	Charterhall	10
Dunlop	7½	Plessey	14	KCA	11
Eagle Star	15	Racal Elect.	22	Premier	13
F.N.F.C.	2¼	R.H.M.	4½	Shell	35
Gen. Accident	27	Rank Org.	15	Tricentrol	40
Gen. Electric	35	Reed Intnl.	16	Ultramar	35
Glaxo	18	Sears	5		
Grand Met.	12	Tesco	6	**Mines**	
G.U.S. 'A'	34	Thorn	23		
Guardian	23	Trust Houses	12	Charter Cons.	14
G.K.N.	20	Tube Invest.	23	Cons. Gold	40
Hawker Sidd	15	Unilever	49	Lonrho	8
House of Fraser	15	U.D.T.	5½	Rio T. Zinc	35

A selection of Options traded is given on the London Stock Exchange Report page

"Recent Issues" and "Rights" Page 36

This service is available to every Company dealt in on Stock Exchanges throughout the United Kingdom for a fee of £500 per annum for each security

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FINANCIAL TIMES
Wednesday September 24 1980

St. Anne's Board Mill to close

BY WILLIAM HALL

THE St. Anne's Board Mill, the Bristol-based Imperial Group subsidiary, which is Britain's second biggest producer of cartonboard, is to close with the loss of 900 jobs. It is the third integrated (using home-grown timber) pulp and paperboard mill to be closed this year.

The 67-year-old company, founded to make cigarette packets before World War I, is the latest major casualty of the recession in the UK paper industry. Next week, paper industry and trade union leaders meet the Prime Minister to discuss the industry's crisis.

Apart from its position in the UK paper industry, St. Anne's has an international reputation as an innovator in paper-machine design. In the 1960s it invented the Invertorm process, which revolutionised board-making and has been adopted by many board-makers world-wide.

St. Anne's lost £3.4m in 1978 and 1979, and has forecast a loss of more than £6m for the current financial year.

Over the past 18 months, 900 jobs were shed and capacity was cut by nearly a quarter, to make the mill profitable. Imperial had tried since the start of the year to sell it as a going concern. With the help of a firm of consultants it approached 90 leading North American, Scandinavian and European paper companies to see if they were interested, to no avail.

Imperial Group has owned St. Anne's for nearly 60 years but decided to withdraw from the industry for a combination of factors.

Energy costs jumped from 6 per cent to 17 per cent of St. Anne's total production costs over the past six years. Imperial believes the serious over-capacity in the European cartonboard industry will persist for several years. Also, imports account for 40 per cent of the UK market and, because of the strength of sterling, the company is losing £100 on every tonne it produces.

St. Anne's operates three board-machines, with a total capacity of 100,000 tonnes a year of cartonboard, making it in size second only to Thames Board Mills. Like Thames it uses about 50,000 tonnes of home-grown timber a year.

Its closure will mean that three of Britain's six integrated paper board mills will have been closed by the end of this year. Wiggins Teape is closing its Fort William pulp-mill. Bowater is closing its Ellsemere Port newsprint mill.

The three mills annually consumed nearly 600,000 tonnes of home-grown timber. Much of this will now be exported to Scandinavia, which supplies Britain with a large part of its paper.

Courtaulds redundancies, Page 10
European aid plea for Bowater

Difficulties of BSC put to Joseph

By Alan Pike

THE WORSENING financial and market problems of the British Steel Corporation were reviewed at a meeting yesterday between Mr. Ian MacGregor, the corporation's chairman, and Sir Keith Joseph, Industry Secretary.

The talks took place amid fears that the corporation will produce only 10m liquid tonnes of steel this yar.

BSC's losses in the current financial year are unlikely to be below last year's £545m. A Government announcement on further aid to fund the corporation through the winter is expected soon. This would require a supplementary estimate or use of the contingency fund but Sir Keith can, if necessary, act before Parliament resumes late next month.

The continuing decline in steel demand during the summer has rendered unrealistic even BSC's reduced target output of 15m liquid tonnes this year. Mr. MacGregor told Sir Keith that, given all this, he wants to delay making final recommendations about the future size of Britain's nationalised steelmaking capacity until he has a clearer long-term view of the market.

Sir Keith has accepted that BSC will require an as yet unknown amount of additional financial assistance this year, but he remains determined that Mr. MacGregor must act to reduce the losses.

Also discussed was the closure of the Consett, County Durham, steelworks and the apparent failure of the independent consortium which has expressed an interest in the plant to meet BSC's requirements.

BSC yesterday switched off the fuel supply to the Conset blastfurnaces, a move which will, once the furnaces have cooled, make it an expensive task to resume production. The unnamed consortium will meet today to decide the future of its bid but the chances of Consett's being saved are increasingly remote.

End to German steel divisions urged, Page 2

Continued from Page 1

Fiat

entitlement is clearly intended as proof that it is not intending to withdraw from Fiat in its present difficulties. The decision also underlines the family's commitment to maintain Fiat as a private company

The capital increase will pave the way for a massive injection of funds by Fiat into its major subsidiaries. For this purpose, it will be supplemented by drawing on the L1,588bn of liquid assets held by the holding company on June 30 last.

The capital of Fiat Auto Spa, the group's tar division, is to rise from L1,200bn to L1,700bn, and that of Teksid, its special steels division, to L420bn from the present L370bn.

A further L600bn will be channelled into the International Holding Fiat, responsible for the group's interest outside Italy.

Plan to aid unemployed

BY ELINOR GOODMAN

PROPOSALS TO spend up to £150m more on the Manpower Services Commission's special programme aimed at alleviating the impact of unemployment are likely to be put to the Cabinet soon.

Mr. James Prior, the Employment Secretary, is believed to be considering a package which would add an extra £100m to the Youth Opportunities Programme and up to another £50m on other special employment measures. The commission's budget for special measures this year is £240m.

The cost of additional measures could be considerably lessened because of savings in social security expenditure. Some of the extra money needed might come from the EEC.

The Prime Minister is committed to more help for the young unemployed and there is growing concern among Ministers about the rate at which unemployment is rsing. Even so, Mr. Prior may come under pressure from Cabinet coleagues to reduce the scope of the package which is now being drawn up.

The package will probably be put before Ministers within the next two weeks. It will be announced — quite possibly in amended form—at the end of October.

There is some pressure on Ministers to announce the measures at the Tory Party conference, where worries about rising unemployment are likely to surface, even among usually hawkish delegates.

But the feeling at present seems to be that it would be better to announce the package immediately after the Commons re-assembles—when MPs are likely to be confronted with even worse unemployment figures.

The announcement might, therefore, succeed in taking some of the steam out of Opposition attacks on the Government's unemployment record.

The Youth Opportunities Programme will, under existing provisions, cost around £170m this year, and other special employment measures, like the Special Temporary Employment Programme, are to cost about £70m. The additional money would be channelled through the commission and would be spent largely on strengthening the existing schemes.

The package would represent a shift in emphasis in employment aid, which Ministers seem to feel would take account of changing needs and the pressure to do everything possible to stop young people joining the long-term unemployed.

The bulk of the existing aid goes to school-leavers. Under the new proposals, more attention would probably be given to the needs of young people who have been out of work for some months.

Overtime ban in benefits offices

BY PAULINE CLARK, LABOUR STAFF

THE CIVIL and Public Services Association, the biggest Civil Service union, said yesterday it was to start an immediate overtime ban in unemployment benefits offices because of overworked staff.

The ban, which is intended to bring the problem home to the Government, was announced shortly after Mr. Jim Prior, Secretary for Employment, rejected a union request to postpone a plan to impose staff cuts of about 14,000 in Employment Offices from October as part of the Government's plan to reduce public expenditure.

The union warned that a refusal by its members to do overtime and to help untrained temporary staff could lead to serious delays in the distribution of benefits at a time of mounting unemployment.

It argued, however, that it had no option but to take the step because the Government had failed to recognise that excessive overtime by staff was hiding the underlying problem of increased pressure and falling morale.

Mr. Terry Ainsworth, CPSA employment national officer, said yesterday the union's 15,000 members administering unemployment benefits would be advised from today not to agree to do overtime to cope with the number of claims that were now pouring into their offices. He was confident that the action would be endorsed by the union's executive meeting in two weeks time.

The staff cuts are based on a work measurement survey conducted in employment offices following the introduction of the fortnightly benefits payment system last February.

The CPSA, which represents clerks, and the Society of Civil and Public Servants, which represents managers and supervisors, have challenged the findings of the survey and want staff cuts to be delayed until the results of a new survey are known next April.

The Department of Employment stressed yesterday that the cuts indicated by this year's survey involved a reduction in the ratio of staff to claimants rather than an actual cut in personnel.

The union concedes that untrained temporary staff are taken on in offices in areas of high unemployment but it argues that this only increases the burden on permanent staff who are diverted from their jobs to train newcomers.

It claims that, with the rising number of unemployed, staff last August worked 60,000 hours overtime to cope with the work. lthough this was divided among 19,000 total staff, the overtime was disproportionately concentrated in areas of high unemployment.

Inflation fears pose threat to Carter

BY JUREK MARTIN, U.S. EDITOR, IN WASHINGTON

THE prospect of accelerating American inflation threatens to complicate President Jimmy Carter's last month of campaigning for re-election.

The Labour Department reported yesterday that the consumer price index had risen by a seasonally adjusted 0.7 per cent in August, this was largely because the surge in food prices, up 1.7 per cent in the month, more than offset the negligible 0.1 per cent advance in housing costs.

In July the index had remained unchanged, because of the influence of mortgage interest rates, then declining. This had emboldened the Administration enough for it to suggest that the worst of inflation, which was running at an annual rate of 18 per cent in the first three months of the year, had passed and that the President's economic policies were beginning to work.

In August, mortgage rates were still at their midsummer lows but have since begun moving up to the 13 per cent plus range, in line with other market-related interest rates.

At the same time, food prices, flat for much of the year, have risen largely as a result of the drought which has afflicted the U.S. agricultural belt.

The harbinger of more inflation has already emerged in the shape of two consecutive sharp increases in the wholesale price index, which eventually shows at retail level.

In the year to August, consumer prices rose by 12.8 per cent.

Next month's figures, covering September, will provide the last consumer price index before the Presidential election on November 4. The current forecast is that those will bring little comfort to President Carter either.

Mr. Ronald Reagan, the Republican candidate, has been making much of the Carter Administration's economic record. Campaigning on Monday night in Florida, his criticism took on a new sharp note.

At last week's Press conference, Mr. Reagan said, the President "stood there with his bare face hanging out and said the inflation rate was going to stay in single figures. How can it stay where it hasn't been and isn't now?"

Latest opinion polls, Page 6

Continued from Page 1

Iran-Iraq war

shoot down the Iranian aircraft.

The military command said that by mid-afternoon 20 Iranian jets had been shot down and a number of pilots captured. However, the Iraqi killing rate climbed steeply in the evening and by evening the total was put at 67.

Foreign guests at the city's main hotel, the Baghdad, were said to be gathered round the swimming pool last night "watching the night sky lit up by thousands of shells from the anti-aircraft batteries."

As darkness fell the Iranian air attacks were said to be growing heavier and seemed to be concentrated on the industrial areas of Baghdad.

Earlier, Iraq said it had flown sorties against three Iranian targets and inflicted heavy damage. Tehran said more than 140 Iraqi planes had taken part in the raids and that 16 Soviet-built MiGs had been brought down.

Only Iran yesterday reported any naval engagements. It said that its ships sank four Iraqi gunboats at the mouth of the Shatt-al-Arab.

The pace of yesterday's events and the widened scope of the fighting supports military analysts' theories that Iraq is going for a swift knockout blow. It needs a quick victory to justify that it started the fighting and to capitalise on its advantage in terms of serviceable weaponry and ammunition.

Continued from Page 1

Labour squeeze

no further details.

Seasonally adjusted adult unemployment has set a post-war record for every month since April, and the unadjusted total is now the highest since early 1935.

The figures are however not strictly comparable because of the big rise in the workforce since the 1930 and changed methods of composing the unemployment register.

The number of adults out of work has now increased by 522,000, or about 41 per cent, since the upturn in unemployment started 12 months ago.

The rise accelerated in the summer. Monthly increases adjusted adult unemployment have been running at an average 83,000 in the past three months. This is more than double the rate of the previous quarter and has been well above the average increases registered in the 1974-75 recession.

Simultaneously, vacancies have been falling sharply. Notified vacancies dropped by a seasonally-adjusted 7,600 to 112,800 in the past month.

This represents the 15th successive monthly fall. It takes the total number of notified vacancies to fewer than half the level of a year ago

Whitehall officials estimate that the number of vacancies registered at employment offices represents only about one third of the total jobs available

New hope of Greece's return to NATO

By Metin Munir and David Tonge in Ankara

A MAJOR SHIFT in Turkey's position on the Aegean could clear the way for Greece's return to the military wing of NATO as early as this winter.

The possibility of an end to the alliance's most troubling internal dispute was confirmed yesterday by senior officials in the new Turkish Government.

Ankara had been insisting that Greece should only return to the alliance — which it left after the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974—only after agreement has been reached on how military command and control responsibilities in the Aegean should be divided between the two countries.

Now, the Turkish officials said, the view in Ankara is that Greece should now return to the alliance and discussions on command and control then take place between military representatives in Nato.

Until an agreement is reached no command and control borders would exist. Greece is known to have some reservations over this approach but diplomats in Ankara believe Athens can be reassured.

Officials said the new Turkish position had been decided before the military coup on September 12 and that, in general, Turkish foreign policy would remain unchanged.

Recent Greek Governments have been keen to return to the alliance. Mr. George Rallis, Prime Minister, is worried at possible exploitation of the widespread anti-Americanism in Greece by the rising opposition party led by Mr. Andreas Papandreou. Mr. Rallis's Government has warned that, if the Nato question cannot be solved soon, it will withdraw the request for reintegration rather than risk fighting next year's election on this issue.

Athens has also warned that the future of the important U.S. bases in Greece depends on resolving Greece's relations with Nato.

One of the generals first acts after taking power in Turkey on September 12 was to reassure Athens of its hopes for good relations. The new Turkish stand on the Aegean is in response to a proposal by General Bernard Rogers, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe.

Also outstanding between the two countries are disputes over civilian air control in the Aegean, over the air limits claimed by Greece, and over division of the Aegean continental shelf. These issues are to be discussed in New York by the secretaries general of the two countries on October 3 and by the Foreign Ministers two days later.

Richard Evans writes from Athens: Only yesterday Mr. Rallis urged Mrs. Margaret Thatcher on the last day of her visit to Greece, to ensure that Nato countries put the maximum pressure on Turkey to lift its veto on Greece's re-admision to the military wing of the alliance.

Weather

UK TODAY

RAIN or showers, sunny intervals.

N.E. Scotland, Orkney, Shetland
Rather cloudy, occasional rain dying out later. Max. 14C (57F).

Rest of UK

Sunny intervals, rain or showers. Max. 18C (64F).
Outlook: Mostly dry in the South, changeable in the North.

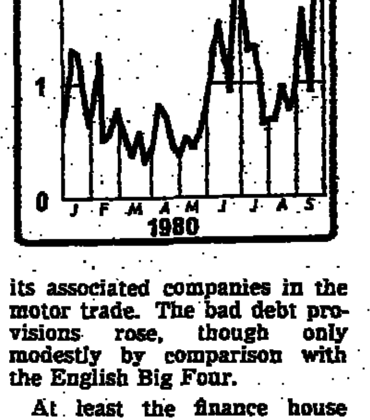
WORLDWIDE

		Y'day midday °C	°F
Ajaccio	S	27	77
Akrotiri	S	29	84
Alxndria	C	28	82
Algiers	F	28	82
Athens	S	26	79
Bahrain	S	32	90
Barclna.	S	25	77
Beirut	S	31	88
Belfast	C	14	57
Belgrd.	F	25	77
Berlin	C	16	61
Biarritz	S	26	79
Bmghm.	F	18	64
Blackpl.	F	18	64
Bordx.	S	24	75
Boulgn.	F	18	64
Bristol	C	16	61
Brussels	S	21	70
Budpst.	C	22	72
Cairo	S	31	88
Cardiff	C	16	61
Cas'b'ca	S	24	75
Cape T.	S	25	77
Cologne	F	20	68
Cpnhgn.	C	16	61
Corfu	S	29	84
Dublin	C	15	59
Dbrvnk.	S	25	77
Ednbgh.	R	15	59
Faro	S	28	82
Florence	F	22	72
Frankft.	F	21	70
Funchal	F	23	73
Geneva	S	20	68
Glasgow	C	16	61
Gibraltar	F	25	77
G'msey	F	17	63
Helsinki	C	14	57
H. Kong	F	28	82
Innsbrk.	C	17	63
Invrnss.	F	17	63
Istanbul	S	27	81
Jeddah	S	34	93
Jersey	F	17	63
Jo'burg	C	13	55
L. Plms.	F	24	75
Lisbon	S	24	75
Locarno	S	22	72
London	C	17	63
Luxmbg.	F	20	68
Luxor	S	36	97
Madrid	S	24	75
Majorca	S	28	82
Malaga	S	25	77
Malta	S	30	86
M'chstr.	C	18	64
Melbne.	C	21	70
Milan	S	23	73
Mntreal	C	16	61
Moscow	C	8	46
Munich	R	15	57
Naples	S	26	79
Nwcstl.	C	15	59
N. York	C	26	79
Nice	S	23	73
Oporto	S	21	70
Oslo	C	14	57
Paris	S	21	70
Perth	F	19	66
Prague	C	13	55
Reykjvk.	R	10	50
Rhodes	S	25	77
Riyadh	S	35	95
Rome	S	27	81
Ron'sway	C	15	59
Salzbrg.	R	15	59
Seoul	S	20	68
Stckhm.	C	11	52
Strasbg.	F	21	70
Sydney	S	24	75
Tangier	S	29	84
Tel Aviv	S	28	84
Tenerife	F	20	68
Tokyo	C	21	70
Tunis	F	31	88
Valencia	S	26	79
Venice	S	23	73
Vienna	F	29	84
Warsaw	C	14	57
Zurich	F	18	64

THE LEX COLUMN

Dividend promise from Barratt

Index fell 2.2 to 485.1



Barratt Developments has had some trouble persuading investors that its earnings are of reliable quality: quantity, though, is not in question. The group has pushed pre-tax profits up from £18.2m to £24.8m in the year to June, after an accounting change — under which housebuilding profits are only taken in on final completion. This, incidentally, pushes £1½m of profits into 1980-81.

Pre-tax margins on housebuilding are only down by half a point or so at 11½ per cent, although the interest charge is higher and it must have become more difficult to push up prices as the year progressed. In the current year, Barratt is budgeting to build 11,000 houses—the same as the 1979-80 outcome, but rather less than the original plan.

This slowing will be a relief to the balance sheet; last year debt rose by £19.5m to £53m—over 60 per cent of net worth—to finance an expansion of working capital in line with sales growth. This year cash flow may fall short for another reason—if house prices stick while costs continue to rise, Barratt may find both margins and volume shrinking.

The group answers these fears by promising a 25 per cent dividend increase in 1980-1981. But one major worry about Barratt is that its earnings contain a high element of stock profits on land, which cannot be distributed without the need for more borrowings, or—eventually—a rights issue. This year's yield is 12 per cent after a 14p rise in the share price yesterday to 156p.

Bank of Scotland

Balance sheet growth of some 20 per cent for Bank of Scotland has produced only a 2 per cent gain in pre-tax profits at £20.9m for the six months to August, though the interim dividend is up by a tenth and the share price added 3p to close at 291p. Average base rate was 3.6 points higher than in the same period last year, but as with the English clearers a whole list of negative factors has largely absorbed the endowment effect.

Thus the lucrative current accounts have failed to grow, while retail interest-bearing deposits have expanded by nearly a quarter. Staff costs jumped by 26 per cent, as the Scottish banks conceded a catch-up claim as well as a regular annual award. Moreover, the important finance house side was hard hit by high money costs and by the poor results of its associated companies in the motor trade. The bad debt provisions rose, though only modestly by comparison with the English Big Four.

At least the finance house activity will give a useful counter-cyclical boost when interest rates go down. But the immediate outlook is distinctly unexciting—the full year's profits will be little changed—though the prospective yield of maybe 8.3 per cent is reasonable.

Traded options

"The institutions now have no excuse." That was the view yesterday of one broker specialising in traded options, responding to the news that the final tax obstacle to the traded options market has been removed. All too often in the past fund managers have arrived at brokers' seminars, looked blank, and then muttered about tax problems. The market is still reckoned to be too heavily weighted towards buyers of options, and evidence that the big funds are going to appear as active writers is needed if volume is to develop in a healthy way towards the 5,000 contracts a day now seen as an interim target by the Stock Exchange.

The question is, of course, whether the institutional fund managers need a healthy traded options market quite as much as the brokers do. In the end, the funds will be forced in only when they see rivals successfully stepping up their rates of return. This week's burst of options trading reflects hectic dealing in volatile counters like Gold Fields and Lonrho rather than any lifting of the tax shadow. From November the raising of the number of shares in which options are traded from 15 to 20 will help widen the appeal of the market (an eventual total of 30 is envisaged) and the first five classes of put options are scheduled to be introduced next April. But the brokers have to go out and sell; there may be no more excuses but there is certainly still plenty of inertia among fund managers.

Kleinwort Benson

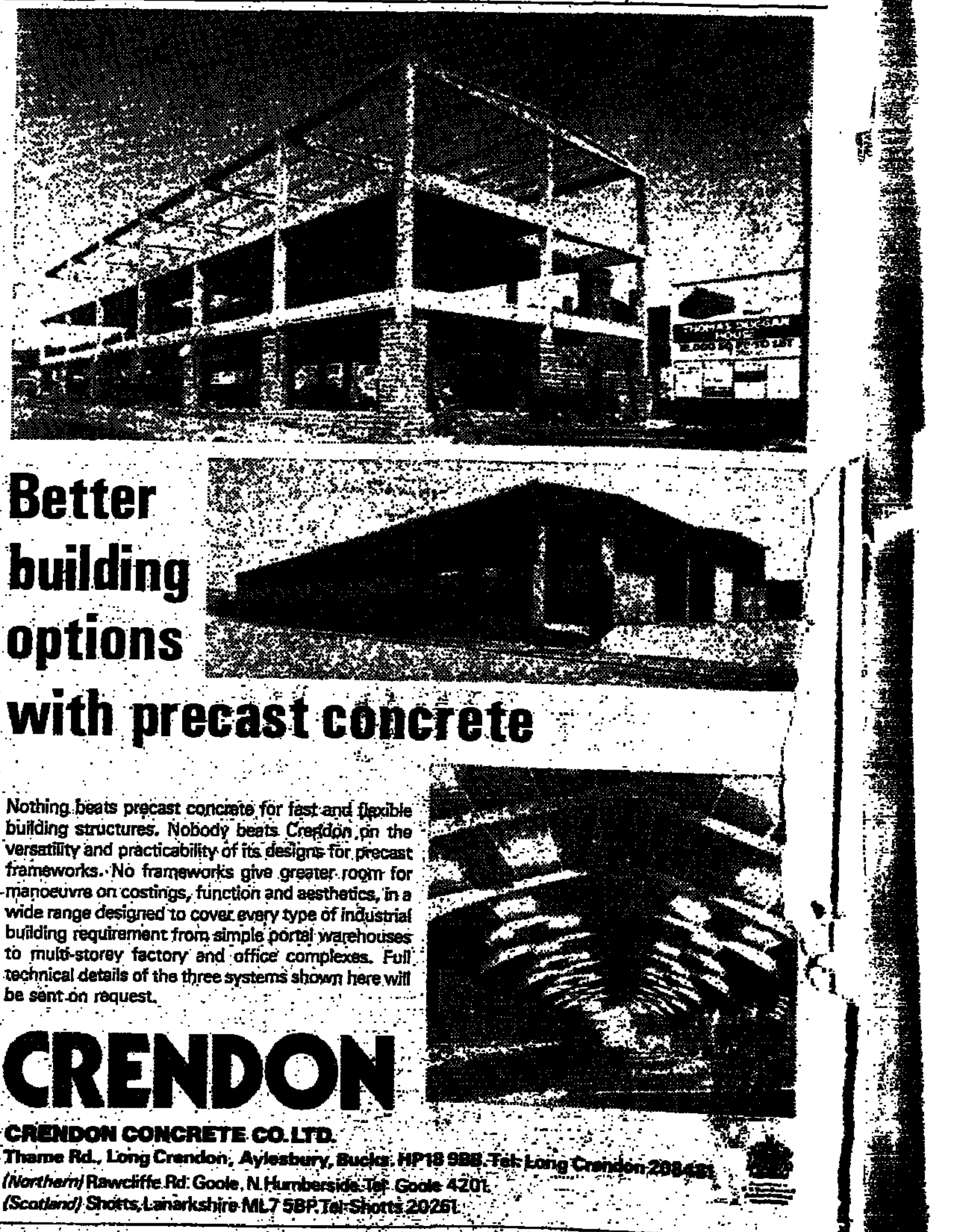
The City's bullion dealers have been making enormous profits in 1980, as first Standard Chartered and now Kleinwort Benson have reported in their interim statements. Standard's figures could have been inflated by an exceptional £12m or so from this source in the first six months of this year, and although Kleinwort will not put numbers on anything, it uses most untypical language to describe the impact on the group. Thus overall profits are said to be substantially higher, and the interim dividend is up a fifth.

Kleinwort has not filed consolidated figures for its bullion dealing subsidiary, Sharps Pixley, for a couple of years. Then, it reported £3.4m pre-tax, and it seems a fair bet that this figure could now be multiplied several times.

Like both Lazards and Schroders, the group is also seeing an improvement on its general banking business. Margins on currency and sterling lending remain as tight as ever. But lending volumes are up, and the corporate finance side is active. Kleinwort is also doing well in a number of more specialised areas, like the Channel islands and Hong Kong. The shares rose 8p to 230p yesterday, and if the year's dividend goes up by a fifth the yield will be around 5 per cent.

Fiat

The Italian equity market has been very strong in recent months, and even Fiat shares have belatedly joined in the fun, despite the group's problems in cars, steel, earth-moving equipment, and its need for cash to fund — among other things — the expansion of its commercial vehicle side. Supply has risen to meet demand for the shares, in the form of a £125m deep-discount rights isue, and a bond issue — partly convertible — of a similar size. Fiat looks set for a bitter strike over redundancies on the car side, but at least this should help its stock problems.



Registered at the Post Office. Printed by St. Clement's Press for and published by the Financial Times Ltd., Bracken House, Cannon Street, London, EC4P 4BY.
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